

Hafa Adai!

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## OPINION METER

### This week's poll:

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, what's your level of confidence in the Board of Regents' choice of Dr. Christa Adams as the next NMC president?

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to cast your vote.

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Violent thunderstorms roar across middle America, killing seven people.

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The Philippine military, one of Asia's weakest, is too weak to stop foreign intrusions.

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For the final episode, the talk show queen appears alone on her stage.

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**Notorious burglar gets 8 years in prison. PAGE 5**

# Adams declines NMC presidency

» Sources say regents likely to appoint Hart to post

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

After almost three weeks of negotiations, Dr. Christa Adams has begged off from becoming the next president of the Northern Marianas College.



Adams

Adams officially declined the NMC presidency yesterday after informing the Board of Regents that she is rejecting the job offer.

All is not lost for NMC, though, with board chair Juan T. Lizama hinting

See ADAMS on Page 4

## April visitor arrivals drop 18 percent

April 2011 visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands were down 18 percent compared to April 2010, a significant loss following the March 11 earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear crisis in Japan. According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, visitor arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota totaled 21,629 last month compared to 26,255 in April 2010.

Arrivals from Japan dropped 26 percent to 7,696. In addition to the Japan crisis, flights from Osaka and Nagoya were suspended on April 3 and April 4, due to the low travel demand "death valley" period, with Osaka flights re-instated during peak season including Golden Week at the end of April. Also, in April 2011 the CNMI received only two daily

See APRIL on Page 4



## HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Lt. Gov. S. Eloy Inos talk with members of the audience during the proclamation signing yesterday declaring May 23 to 31 Historic Preservation Week. The weeklong celebration is part of the observance of May as National Preservation Month nationwide. This year's theme is "Celebrating America's Treasures."

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

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## Govt mulls transitioning pension system to federal Social Security

» Administration not keen on cutting benefits

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Fitial administration is not keen on reducing retirees' benefits "without corresponding offset in other areas," and

has once again raised the possibility of transitioning the NMI Retirement Fund to the Social Security System—at least for some who have yet to invest in the pension system.

See GOVT on Page 4

## CBP cites computer system outage for delay

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection told CNMI Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) that the agency "will look into" his specific concerns, which the senator said include allegation of "callous treatment" of airline passengers and crew by CBP officers at

the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

CBP, at the same time, said its computer systems suffered a connectivity failure after the initial passenger processing began in the early morning hours of April 16. This prolonged the wait time for passengers and airline crew to be processed.

Hofschneider and other senators also  
See CBP on Page 4



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Notice of Zoning Board Public Hearing  
For  
House Local Bill 17-26, Section 2, ( Paragraphs A-P )

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at the scheduled Zoning Board public hearings on the following rezones as proposed by House Local Bill 17-26:

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph B:** Properties in lower Navy Hill from “Rural” to “Village Commercial”. The proposed district is marked by the intersection of Puetto Street and Chalan Pale Arnold Road. It is also within distance of American Memorial Park, Publiko Drive, and Industrial Drive.

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph E:** Properties within Navy Hill and China Town from “Village Residential” and “Rural” to “Village Commercial”. Within the As Falipe area, this paragraph proposes to rezone property from “Rural” to “Mixed Commercial”. These three proposed zoning districts can be reached by Navy Hill Road, Sugar King Road, and Commonwealth Drive.

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph H:** Properties bounded by Gualo Rai Road and Rai Drive, otherwise described as the Gualo Rai Loop, from “Village Residential” to “Village Commercial”. This site is within proximity of Gualo Rai Road’s intersection with Chalan Pale Arnold Road.

**Date:** June 6th, 2011 ( Monday )  
**Time** 6:00pm  
**Place:** Garapan Elementary School

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph A:** Properties along Lancho Avenue, San Roque Drive, Boti Street, and Chalan Pale Arnold Road from “Tourist Resort” or “Village Residential” to “Village Commercial”. It is within distance from Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School.

**Date:** June 7th, 2011 ( Tuesday )  
**Time** 6:00pm  
**Place:** Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph C:** Properties on Saipan’s east coast, in the I Pitot area, from “Rural” to “Village Commercial”. Two new “Village Commercial” districts, separated by a “Public Resources” zone, would be established by this action. The proposed districts contain Otdot Way, Chichiget Drive, Sasata Lane, and Apayuhak Lane. Surrounding roads include Talofoto Road, Egigi Drive, Luao Drive, and Santa Lourdes Road.

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph D:** Properties on the west side of Isa Drive, in the I Akgak area, from “Rural” to “Mixed Commercial”. This site is directly along Isa Drive between Egigi Drive and Santa Lourdes Road.

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph F:** Properties along the east coast of Saipan just directly north of Kagman Village from “Rural” to “Village Commercial”. These properties are accessed from Santa Lourdes Road.

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph G:** Properties described as Tracts 22796-7, 22796-8, 21903-8, and 22700 from “Rural” to “Mixed Commercial”. These properties are at the intersection of Isa Drive and Kagman Road.

**Date:** June 8th, 2011 ( Wednesday )  
**Time** 6:00pm  
**Place:** Kagman Community Center

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph I:** Properties along the southwest side of Monsignor Guerrero Road from “Rural” and “Village Residential” to “Mixed Commercial”. This site is within proximity of the Northern Marianas College and Big Boy Marine Sports. The properties also abut Lake Susupe.

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph J:** Properties along the southwest side of Monsignor Guerrero Road from “Rural” and “Village Residential” to “Mixed Commercial”. Paragraph J would also rezone another district from “Village Residential” to “Village Commercial”. This site is between Beach Road and Texas Road, just north of the Marianas High School athletic field.

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph L:** Properties that are bounded by Monsignor Guerrero Road on the north, Monsignor Martinez Road on the east, Tun Joaquin Doi Road on the south, and Tun Antonio Apa Road on the west. Properties taking access from Tun Antonio Apa Road would be rezoned from “Village Residential” to “Village Commercial”. Properties taking access from Tun Joaquin Doi Road would be rezoned from “Village Commercial” to “Mixed Commercial”. Lot E.A. 753, taking access from Monsignor Martinez Road would be rezoned from “Rural” to “Industrial”. These three proposed zoning districts are within proximity to the Northern Marianas College.

**Date:** June 9th, 2011 ( Thursday )  
**Time** 6:00pm  
**Place:** Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph K:** Properties along the east coast of Saipan, in the Village of San Vicente from “Village Residential” to “Village Commercial”. Properties within this site have access from Tuturam Drive and Dandan Road. This site is also within proximity to Isa Drive.

**Date:** June 10th, 2011 ( Friday )  
**Time** 6:00pm  
**Place:** San Vicente Elementary School

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph M:** Lots 003 J 02, 003 J 03, 009 J 104, 019 J 95, and 019 J 62 from “Rural” to “Industrial”. These properties are bounded by Fiesta Street on the north, Sand Street on the south, and Flame Tree Road on the west. This site is also within proximity of Tasi Drive, Magicienne Bay Avenue, and Gatbo Avenue. It is on the east side of Flame Tree Road across from the Francisco Ada International Airport.

**Date:** June 13th, 2011 ( Monday )  
**Time** 6:00pm  
**Place:** Dandan Elementary School

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph N:** Would rezone the following lots:

032 K 01,	032 K 02,	032 K 03,	032 K 04,	032 K 07,	032 K 08,
032 K 09,	032 K 10,	032 K 12,	032 K 13,	039 K 01,	039 K 02,
039 K 03,	040 K 01,	040 K 02,	041 K 01,	044 I 01,	045 I 01,
045 I 02,	045 I 03,	045 I 05,	045 I 06,	045 I 07,	045 I 08,
045 I 09,	045 I 10,	045 I 11,	045 I 12,	045 I 13,	045 K 01,
046 I 02,	046 I 03,	046 I 04,	046 I 05,	046 I 06,	046 I 07,
046 I 09,	046 I 10,	046 I 11,	046 I 12,	57-3,	57-3G

from “Village Residential” and Village Commercial” to “Industrial”. These properties are bounded by Tun Kioshi Road on the east and Magisa Drive on the west.

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph O:** Would rezone the following lots:

005 I 01,	005 I 03,	005 L 01,	009 L 02,	009 L 03,	009 L 05,
009 L 06,	009 L 08	009 L 09,	031 L 02,	042 L 01,	042 L 02,
592 New-1-2,	592 New-1-R/W,	592 New-1-R1,	592 New-1-R2,		
592 New-2R/W,	592-New-1R/W,	592-New-2,	592-New-R/W,		
592-New-R2,	H-70,	TR 22777-REM,	TR 22778-1,		
TR 22778-2,	TR 22778-R1,	TR 22778-R2			

from “Rural” and Village Commercial” to “Mixed Commercial”. These properties are at the intersection of Msgr Martinez Road and Tun Thomas P. Sablan Road. This is at the southwest corner of Saipan near the CUC wastewater treatment plant.

**HLB 17-26, Section 2, paragraph P:** Would rezone the following lots:

028 K 04,	028 K 05,	028 K 06,	036 L 15,	036 L 23,	036 L 43,
036 L 47,	036 L 48,	036 L 70,	036 L 71,	036 L 72,	036 L 73,
043 L 12,	043 L 13,	043 L 14,	043 L 190,	043 L 23,	043 L 89,
043 L 90,	TR 22827				

from “Rural” to “Industrial”. These properties are at the intersection of As Gonno Road and Naftan Road. This site is immediately south of the Francisco Ada International Airport. A map

**Date:** June 14th, 2011 ( Tuesday )  
**Time** 6:00pm  
**Place:** Koblerville Youth Center

A map of these proposed rezones are available as a free download at [www.zoning.gov.mp](http://www.zoning.gov.mp). Please call the Zoning Office at 234-9661 for more information.

**HLB 17-26, Section 3:** This would rezone all properties that border any and all major paved thoroughfares 600 feet from the centerlines on either side of such streets as “Mixed Commercial”. Properties already zoned as “Mixed Commercial” or “Industrial” would not be affected.

**Date:** To be considered at each public hearing from June 6th to June 14th, 2011.  
**Time** 6:00pm  
**Place:** Each center listed above.

**HLB 17-26, Section 4:** A comprehensive text amendment to Table 1 entitled “Table of Permitted, Conditional and Temporary Uses” of Section 404 entitled “Allowable Uses in Zoning Districts” of the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008.

**Date:** June 28th, 2011.  
**Time** 6:00pm  
**Place:** Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

# Local

## CHC’s aging collectibles now estimated at \$12M

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
[moneth\\_deposa@saipantribune.com](mailto:moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Health Center has millions of billing backlogs that, if collected, should generate about \$24 million annually for the hospital. That is not happening, however, prompting the hospital to hire the services of a collection agency that will take charge of billings.

Esther L. Muña, acting deputy secretary for hospital administration estimates the hospital’s aging collectibles at over \$12 million.

“The hospital billing backlog totals is probably half of what we generate each year, which is about \$24 million,” she said.

Muña also pointed out that CHC only has a few staff in its billing and collection sections, while only one encoder each is assigned to the inpatient and outpatient sections.

This is why the hospital decided to outsource its billing services to Guam Marianas Collection Agency, which started work last month, she said.

Muna, who also serves as DPH financial services administrator, disclosed that the over \$12 million collectibles cover unpaid accounts dating as far back as May 2005, which means they are still covered under the six-year statute of limitations.

“This is why it’s critical to get the bills and notices out in a timely manner,” she explained.

Guam Marianas Collection

## \$50K bail for alleged child molester

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
[ferdie\\_delatorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

Superior Court associate judge Kenneth L. Govendo imposed yesterday a \$50,000 cash bail on a 35-year-old man who was arrested Tuesday night for allegedly sexually abusing a minor in Koblerville.

Keichiro Anua was arrested for sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree. His preliminary hearing is on June 2 at 9am.

Detective Flora Danica B. Aguon stated in her report that police officers responded Tuesday noon to a complaint about a child sex abuse case in Koblerville.

Aguon said the child’s mother told police that she learned about the abuse when her 13-year-old daughter told her that Anua had sexually abused her.

In her interview with the girl, Aguon said, the girl stated that she was home asleep on Monday at 1am when Anua sexually abused her. The girl said she cried as she was in so much pain.

Aguon said she brought the girl to the Commonwealth

Agency is contracted to issue the initial billing and collect past due accounts.

“CHC has not referred these accounts for collection. They are transferred to GMCA, as the billers for CHC services,” Muña said. As a collection agency, GMCA is also contracted to collect past due accounts.

“For those past due accounts, GMCA will issue notices [that] will state that the account is on collections status and collection fees will be added to those accounts,” she said.

The hospital is also revisiting its billing and collections process to identify gaps for improvement, Muña said.

### Merger

Starting June 1, three administrative offices at the Commonwealth Health Center will be merged to make hospital operations more efficient.

Muña said that the hospital’s business office, billing office, and collection section will be combined and will be called Patient Financial Services.

“With loss of staff, functioning efficiently has become even more challenging compared to how we did when we were fully staffed,” Muña said.

Come Oct. 1, the Department of Public Health, which runs the hospital, will start operating as a corporation under a board. As a corporation, CHC is expected to become self-sufficient, relying on its own revenue for operations.

Health Center Tuesday noon to be examined and a CHC doctor confirmed that there was sexual penetration.

Assistant attorney general Peter B. Prestley appeared for the government. Assistant public defender Douglas Hartig was appointed to represent Anua.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that Anua was also brought to court yesterday morning in a separate criminal case. As he was in jail at the time, he failed to appear at the hearing.

In another sex abuse case, Superior Court associate judge Ramona V. Manglona found probable cause yesterday to warrant the filing of charges against 61-year-old Jose Ilo Santos who allegedly sexually assaulted a girl in Tanapag.

At a preliminary hearing, Manglona ruled that the Office of the Attorney General presented enough evidence to establish probable cause that Santos committed two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree.

Santos is being kept on a \$100,000 bail.



# Inos: Austerity Friday exemptions could add HPO

» Says 2012's list will be shorter

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that the Fitial administration will likely add the Historic Preservation Office to the list of agencies exempted from austerity Fridays, but added that the

## OIA's Babauta here Friday for assistance opportunities

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

U.S. Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta will be meeting with CNMI officials and private sector representatives on Friday mainly on education and technical assistance opportunities.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that Gov. Benigno R. Fitial will join Babauta in meeting with different groups "regarding technical assistance opportunities for eligible non-government organizations."

Babauta, as well as Fitial, will also be meeting with Pub-

exemption list will be shorter in fiscal year 2012.

Inos said this is because HPO, just like other CNMI government agencies, is funded by the federal government.

He said the Office on Aging is the latest agency to be exempted from the austerity Fridays be-

lic School System officials for a briefing on the Assessment of Buildings and Classrooms, or ABC, Initiative, Demapan said.

The initiative aims to assess the status of public schools in four U.S. territories: the CNMI, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and American Samoa.

"The ABC initiative aims to develop a thorough baseline inventory and assessment of all elementary, middle and high school buildings, which will ultimately help the territory determine what kind of repairs and construction need to be done and how many federal dollars will be allocated for such improvements," De-

cause most of its funding comes from the federal government.

Since last year, the Fitial administration has been receiving requests for exemptions from the austerity Fridays and the 16-hour pay cut.

Inos said because the expected resources in fiscal year 2012 are much lower than 2011's, the administration will further

mapan added.

The initiative follows an OIA report titled "U.S. Insular Areas Education Facility Inventory and Condition Assessment Study (Phase I)."

OIA has contracted the Army Corps of Engineers to generate a report that provides a rudimentary, initial assessment of public schools throughout the territories.

Babauta will be coming from Guam, where he presented an initial Guam Energy Assessment Report produced by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory under the direction of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs.

## With explosion of blogs, message boards comes bill on libel

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Citing the need to achieve a correct balance between freedom of speech and the protection of one's reputation, especially with the vast reach of the Internet, Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota) has introduced a bill that seeks to create a criminal libel act in the CNMI.

Santos' House Bill 17-191 or the CNMI Criminal Libel Act of 2011 proposes a fine not exceeding \$5,000, or imprisonment of not more than six months, or both, for violation of the law.

Freedom of the press is guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. But with freedom comes responsibility. Libel law is where the press freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment meet the requirements of responsible journalism, experts say.

HB 17-191 says the easy transfer of information over the Internet in real time and through a majority of locations throughout the world has opened both opportunities and problems.

The freshman lawmaker's bill also cites the explosion of e-groups, blogs, message boards, chat rooms, and other forums where people share facts, views, and opinions.

"Hiding behind a veil of anonymity, it's not uncommon to see people's reputations trashed on the Web. In general, Web libel is posting false information about someone that defames them, commonly accusations of criminal acts, marital infidelity, dishonesty, or that individuals have a nasty disease. Until recently, there was not much that you could do to protect your good name on the Web, but

that's changing," Santos said in her bill.

The bill defines libel as "a malicious defamation, expressed either by writing, printing, or by signs or pictures, or by electronic means on the Internet, electronic bulleting board, chat room, message board, or other place, or the like, to impeach the honesty, integrity, virtue, or reputation, or publish the natural or alleged defects, of one who is alive, and thereby to expose him to public hatred, contempt, or ridicule."

Under the bill, no reporter, editor, or proprietor of any newspaper is liable for any prosecu-

tion for a fair and true report of any judicial, legislative, or other public official proceedings, or of any statement, speech, argument, or debate in the course of the same, "except upon proof of malice in making such report, which shall not be implied from the mere fact of publication."

But it also says there is limitation on the privilege in reporting public proceedings.

"Libelous remarks or comments connected with matter privileged by the last section receive no privilege by reason of their being so connected," the bill adds.

review its exemption list to include only those in "frontline" or critical positions such as doctors, nurses, police officers, and corrections officers.

"And only when they're required to work. Right now their concept of exemption is they're exempted so they can go and work any time because they're

## Insurance firm insists storeowner set off fire

An insurance company is insisting that the owner of a clothing store in Garapan that burned down in October last year cannot claim an insurance policy because the owner intentionally set ablaze the premises where the insured goods were stored.

Attorney Richard W. Pierce, counsel for FirstNet Insurance Company, said FirstNet is not liable for losses caused by the willful act of the insured, Zhen Rui Brother Corp.

Pierce asserts that the contract between Zhen Rui Brother and FirstNet is void for fraud, misrepresentation, and violation

of public policy.

The lawyer said the storeowner entered into the insurance contract "with the intent to cause a loss and to recover on the policy under false pretenses."

On Oct. 30, 2010, a fire broke out at the BL Clothing Store owned by Zhen Rui Brother.

In March 2011, FirstNet filed a lawsuit in federal court against Zhen Rui Brother to declare it free from any obligations to the storeowner.

According to the lawsuit, the fire was deliberately set off so that the owner could

exempted. The budget has taken into account a 25-percent reduction dollar wise so it's gonna be made up somehow," he added.

He said the exemptions for those that are not necessarily critical are defeating the purpose of austerity.

claim \$404,718.53 in insurance proceeds.

Zhen Rui Brother, through counsel Ramon Quichocho, later filed a counterclaim against FirstNet, alleging breach of contract, breach of implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing, insurance bad faith, and unfair or deceptive business practices.

In FirstNet's answer, Pierce said Zhen Rui Brother's counterclaims are barred by its own behavior in setting the premises ablaze and causing the loss to the insured items. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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Jennifer Ross will be at:

- Friday May 27th 8:00am - 5:00pm at Marianas Medical Center in **San Antonio**
- Saturday May 28th 9:00am - 1:00pm at Marianas Medical Center in **Garapan**

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## DFS donates \$3K to 30th Flame Tree Arts Festival

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

DFS Galleria made good on its support

for the 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival with a \$3,000 check donation on Tuesday at the DFS administration office.

Marian Aldan-Pierce, DFS Galleria president, presented the check to overall committee chair Parker Yobei in a brief ceremony witnessed by DFS client ser-



DFS Galleria president Marian Aldan-Pierce, second right, hands a \$3,000 check to Flame Tree Arts Festival Committee overall chair Parker Yobei in a brief ceremony on Tuesday. Joining them are Client Service manager Izumi Castro and Talent Management manager Gemma Good.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

## GOVT

From Page 1

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said yesterday that the administration will review the options presented by a Fund consultant to help stabilize the pension system.

The Fund's actuarial rate consultant, Buck Consultants, presented six options that would bring the Fund's investment funds into balance, including slashing members' benefits across the board by 10 to 50 percent and eliminating the annual cost-of-living adjustment and bonuses to members.

"I don't know that I would support cuts in benefits without corresponding offset in other areas so that's still something that we need to review. That's a recommendation that they made," Inos said in an interview with reporters yesterday morning at the Department of Public Health.

Inos said the administration would like to know from the Fund which specific benefits will be cut and by how much, for example.

"Remember there are two types of benefits. There some that's constitutionally required and there's one that's

statutory," he said.

The former Finance secretary said he also raised on Tuesday "the possibility of transitioning to Social Security, maybe for those folks who have not invested in the system yet."

"So we're looking at various ways just to save the system," he added.

This is not the first time that the administration raised this proposal.

"We actually proposed that in 2006-2007 before we got into the D.C. [defined contribution] plan. But then the Social Security administration was reluctant," he said, adding that while the DC plan is working, it is not enough to save the Fund.

The administration is also looking at a pension obligation bond to help stabilize the pension system.

Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) introduced a bill floating some \$300 million in bonds to pay the government's debt with the Fund, months after voters rejected a similar initiative last year.

The Superior Court determined in June 2009 that the central government owes the Fund over \$231 million in unpaid employer's contributions. This

has increased to over \$317 million as of November 2010.

Deleon Guerrero's initiative has yet to pass the House.

But Inos said even if the bill passes soon, they will have to wait for the next election in 2012 to put it before voters.

### Rebate, refund

Inos reiterated yesterday that the administration does not expect to issue checks for rebates and refunds for tax year 2010 until after the summer. The earliest release could be in August or September, back to the way they were in previous years, because of cash shortage and lack of manpower to process the checks.

He said some 30,000 tax returns are being processed.

"We're still processing returns. We can't even pay the first rebate until we're done with the returns. The priority is to pay refunds. Those are overpayments we have to pay. Rebate will come last," he told reporters.

Residents interviewed said they look forward to their refund and rebate checks, in time for the back-to-school season.

## CBP

From Page 1

leged in an April 27 letter to top CBP officials that arriving airline passengers and crew had to wait for 15 minutes at the Saipan airport just so CBP officers can "warm up" their computers. They said this was in addition to the 10 to 15 minutes processing of each passenger, which they said "is not acceptable."

CBP deputy commissioner David V. Aguilar, in a May 13 letter to Hofschneider, said that CBP "regret[s] any conduct you observed that may have been perceived as rude or unprofessional."

"CBP takes allegations of employee misconduct issues very seriously and has stringent policies pertaining to abuses of authority," Aguilar said. "We will look into the specific concerns you have raised. Complaints of unprofessional conduct and integrity violations are recorded and investigated, and appropriate action is taken against CBP officers who are found to have violated CBP policy."

The senator said he received Aguilar's letter via air mail only on May 24. Hofschneider's April 27 letter was addressed to CBP commissioner Alan Bersin and CBP assistant commissioner Thomas S. Winkowski, asking for an official investigation into the matter.

Aguilar was the CBP official whom Gov. Benigno R. Fitial wrote to in early May, raising the same concerns that

Hofschneider raised with Bersin and Winkowski.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that Fitial has yet to receive a response from CBP.

Hofschneider, in an interview yesterday, said he's "thankful that they responded and that they're taking the concerns we raised seriously."

He said CBP's letter is "a step in the right direction" and hopes that CBP will end the issue by completing an investigation, as senators had requested.

"It's very important to note that we are a resort destination. Because tourism is our main industry, the CNMI needs to be tourist-friendly and accommodating, without compromising the responsibility of CBP to protect our borders," Hofschneider said.

Hofschneider, along with three other senators including Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota), arrived at the Saipan airport in the early morning of April 16, after an official trip in Tianjin and Beijing, China.

The senators said they have heard numerous complaints regarding long lines, delays, and the demeanor of CBP officers at the Saipan airport since the federal government took over control of CNMI borders on Nov. 28, 2009.

They said they witnessed the complaints first hand at the Saipan airport on April 16. They arrived via Korea on Asiana Airlines Flight 605.

### 'Connectivity failure'

Aguilar said in his two-page letter that

CBP records show that this particular flight arrived on Saipan at 1:49am on April 16.

He said CBP officers processed the first passenger from that flight at 1:56am.

"Unfortunately, approximately 10 minutes after the initial passenger processing began, our computer systems suffered a connectivity failure which persisted for approximately 10 minutes, and our primary officers and arriving travelers had to wait for the system to reboot," Aguilar told Hofschneider.

Aguilar said that after the computer system was restored, the supervisor on duty made the decision to process the approximately 15 U.S. citizen passengers who had been waiting in line first, before processing the arriving crew and other passengers.

"This decision was made in fairness to the passengers who had arrived first, and to balance the wait times of all the passengers and crew," Aguilar said.

The CBP official said overall, the processing of the 189 passengers took 57 minutes to process through primary inspection.

"During the computer system outage, the supervisor made a general announcement to the arriving passengers and airline crew that the computer system was down. I have asked our Office of Field Operations to ensure that our personnel at [Saipan] work to communicate any system or processing issues effectively to arriving passengers in the future," Aguilar said.

vice manager Izumi Castro and talent management manager Gemma Good.

"As part of its company culture, DFS Galleria has always encouraged the promotion and development of arts and culture in the community," Aldan-Pierce said.

The 30th Annual Flame Tree Arts Festival will be held from June 9 to 12 at the American Memorial Park in Garapan, west of the Bell Tower.

The largest cultural event in the Commonwealth and celebrated in the region, the Flame Tree Arts Festival promotes and perpetuates the knowledge and skills of gifted local artists by providing them an avenue to demonstrate and display their exceptional arts and crafts.

This year's theme is "Celebrating 30 years of Uniting Cultures and Traditions."

With the festival just around the corner, Aldan-Pierce hopes that the annual celebration will gather a lot of support from the public. She also encouraged neighboring islands of Tinian, Rota, and Guam to join in this year's festivities.

"As we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the festival, let us celebrate our artists and the role they play in keeping our cultures and traditions alive," said Aldan-Pierce.

Yobei, who accepted the donation on behalf of the committee and the Arts Council, said that DFS Galleria has always been a staunch supporter of the Flame Tree Arts Festival.

"Their sponsorship for the 30th anniversary celebration of the festival is a testament to their continued patronage of the talents and skills of our local artists who help perpetuate the cultures and traditions of our proud ancestors," he said.

Arts Council director Angel Hocog said that DFS Galleria's steadfast support in promoting arts and culture in the CNMI "truly means a lot."

"We hope that this move will encourage other establishments to follow suit and support this big annual event," added Hocog.

Hocog and Yobei encouraged the community to take part in the largest annual arts and cultural celebration in the Commonwealth.

For more information, call 322-9982 or 83 or email ftat30@yahoo.com.

## APRIL

From Page 1

flights from Narita compared to three daily flights in April 2010.

Cancellations resulting from the Japan crisis have tapered off and the MVA is optimistic about bookings for the summer period beginning in July. A study by travel industry research firm Japan Travel Bureau Foundation found that following the earthquake, outbound travel demand from Japan hit bottom in mid-April and the number of departures from Narita Airport, as well as new bookings for upcoming months, is now steadily increasing.

Meanwhile, arrivals from the primary market of Korea were also strongly influenced by the Japan disaster, dropping 26 percent to 6,349 arrivals. However, Korea has registered 10 percent

growth overall this fiscal year.

The secondary market of China saw 2,815 arrivals in April, a 19-percent decrease compared to the same month last year. In April 2011 the CNMI received only one daily flight from China compared to two daily flights in April 2010. Sichuan Airlines launched four weekly charter flights in May 2011, a move expected to bring an upswing in arrivals from China in the coming months.

The number of visitors from the United States rose 27 percent to 842 in April, bolstered by one military ship visit and more passenger cruise visitor arrivals than in April 2010. Arrivals from the lucrative market of Russia posted a fifth straight month of increase, rising 9 percent to 283. Also, arrivals were up higher from Guam (+11 percent to 1,533), from Other Areas (+72 percent to 2,030), and from Taiwan (+80 percent to 18). (MVA)

## ADAMS

From Page 1

yesterday that they might name a new president when the board reconvenes today.

"It's very encouraging and maybe I would say, very possible," said Lizama, who declined to elaborate when pressed.

Lizama said Adams did not cite any reason for rejecting the board's offer. He believes, though, that this was a result of some "influences." He did not elaborate.

Saipan Tribune sources disclosed that Dr. Sharon Hart—the board's second top pick who was also previously offered the job but was unable to decide within the time set by the regents—had asked the college to consider her again for the post.

It was learned that Hart had written to NMC to ask for reconsideration but sources said the board did not act on it as negotiations were ongoing with Adams.

Lizama refused to answer questions relating to Hart, saying that six regents need to agree on a decision.

"I cannot speak about that [Dr. Hart's reconsideration]...because the board will address that tomorrow. Anything is possible...and it's up to all members of the board to decide," he said, admitting to a desire to name a new president "today or tomorrow."

"Anything may happen because we will look at the best alternative for the college," he added.

In a statement posted yesterday at the college's website, Lizama said the

regents have extensively deliberated on their options and will be making a decision they feel best serves the students, faculty, staff, and the community.

"Barring any major changes, the NMC Board of Regents expects to name the next president of the Northern Marianas College real soon," said Lizama in the statement.

NMC is currently working on lifting the continued show-cause status imposed by the Accrediting Commission for Community Junior College in January this year. NMC needs to rectify 10 concerns to regain full accreditation status. Among these concerns is the extended lack of a permanent college president. The position was vacated by Dr. Carmen Fernandez in January 2010 after she was suspended and later fired by the board.

Lizama, along with interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera, will face the commission and defend NMC's accreditation on June 8.

"By that time, I am sure we will already have a president," Lizama said yesterday, adding that the board has a "limited time" to address the deficiency.

Saipan Tribune learned that Hart is on a short-term contact with the University College of the Caribbean since January 2010 where she is deputy president. She is currently in Jamaica with her husband, Steve, and 13-year-old son, Micah.

Hart once applied for the NMC presidency and was one of the top candidates then. She later withdrew her application. In that search process, Dr. Carmen Fernandez was named to the position.



# Notorious burglar gets 8 years in prison

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_deltorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman yesterday slapped a notorious burglar with an eight-year prison sentence that will be followed by 10 years on probation.

Wiseman sentenced Arthur Thomas Ramangmau Rauepi to 20 years in prison, all suspended except for eight years, with credit for time served.

## Coleman to step down from Veterans Office next month

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Executive officer Ruth Coleman of the CNMI Military and Veterans Affairs Office announced yesterday that she will be resigning from her post next month.

"I'm sad but not sad," Coleman said as she made the announcement at the Public Health Secretary's conference room yesterday morning after Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed the proclamation declaring May 25 to 31 as Memorial Week.

Coleman said she will still be doing veteran-related work as she will be employed by the Veterans Health Administration, which is part of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

Coleman said she will start with her new job on June 6.

"I will still be helping veterans and their families and be involved with health and benefits to assist our veterans," she explained.

According to Coleman, she

The 22-year-old Rauepi was ordered to pay restitution to his victims—\$3,550 to Leslieann P. Sablan, \$580 to Magie Brel Cabrera, and \$3,648 to Jesus O. Dela Cruz—and to write each of them a letter of apology. He was also assessed a \$2,000 fine, \$100 court assessment fee, and probation service fee.

According to court records, the Office of the Attorney General charged Rauepi on Dec. 22, 2010 with burglary, theft,

and criminal contempt. Additional charges—two counts of burglary, two counts of theft, and two counts of criminal mischief—were filed against Rauepi on March 29, 2011.

Rauepi pleaded guilty to theft in the first case and pleaded

guilty to two counts of burglary in the second case as part of a plea deal with the government. The remaining charges were dropped.

According to the agreement, on Nov. 25, 2010, Rauepi stole from Sablan's house in Kagman

a white-gold ring with 2.5 karat diamond, two sets of white-gold earrings, and a baseball cap, among other things.

On Sept. 24, 2010, Rauepi stole from Cabrera a bush cutter, two sets of toolboxes, a duffle bag, and computer speakers.

On Dec. 8, 2010, Rauepi broke into the residence of Dela Cruz and stole (and damaged) a 1996

Mitsubishi Mighty Max pickup truck, a cell phone, and a wallet.

In June 2010, Judge Ramona Manglona sentenced Rauepi to four months in prison for burglarizing retired doctor Calistro Cabrera's house and stealing money, items, and a car in May 2009. In that case, Rauepi was given credit for the four months he had already served in jail.

## BOE tightens anti-bullying policy

The CNMI Board of Education has tightened its policy on bullying, adopting new regulations that establish expulsion and dismissal from service as among the consequences of bullying acts perpetrated against students and employees of the Public School System.

The board approved the anti-bullying policy at a regular meeting on Tinian on Thursday.

BOE prohibits bullying, harassment, or intimidation of any person on school property or at school-sponsored functions or by the use of electronic technology at a public school.

The regulation also prohibits reprisal or retaliation against individuals who report such acts or who are victims, witnesses, or bystanders or others with reliable information about such acts.

The board encourages any student who believes that he or she is a victim of bullying to report the matter immediately to their principals, teachers, or counselors.

The board wants the school administrators to regularly conduct follow-ups with complaining students to ensure that the bullying has stopped and that no retaliation has occurred.

Any student engaged in bullying while on school property or

while participating in school activities will be subject to disciplinary action, including expulsion.

Any employee who permits or engages in the bullying of students will be subjected to disciplinary actions, including termination.

Any employee or student who does not act promptly to forward the complaint to the principal will also be disciplined, as well as students who bring a "false charge." (*Moneth G. Deposa*)



Coleman

will be off-island for a month and a half once she starts on her new job to undergo training on VHA's system.

"Even though I'm leaving the [CNMI Military and Veterans Affairs] Office, my doors are always open. You can come and see me and we'll help all our veterans," she added.

Coleman disclosed that she already spoke with her new boss, who agreed that she may still provide assistance to the local Veterans Affairs Office during their transition.

"I want to ensure that veteran programs continue seamlessly," she added.

After Coleman's announcement, Inos quipped, "Just make sure you find someone better than you to replace you" to which she replied, "You know you can't."

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# Japanese repatriation group to visit NMI for 42nd time

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Some 65 members of the Micronesian Repatriation Association are scheduled to visit the CNMI from May 30 to June 3 to visit war memorial sites and hold their annual memorial services.

Hiroko Tajima, Pacific Development Inc. assistant manager, said the group will conduct the 42nd annual memorial service on

Saipan at the Tower of Okinawa in Marpi at 11am on May 30.

The next day, the delegation will fly to Tinian to conduct its 34th annual memorial service on Tinian at the Tower of Okinawa on the Carolinas Plateau, also at 11am.

Urazoe City Mayor Mitsuo Gima will be with the group.

Tajima said both memorial services are open to the public and that some of the group's members will also visit Rota for

an overnight trip.

"Some of the guests who will be arriving were born in the CNMI during the Japanese administration. During their trip, they will visit places they hold dear in their hearts as they remember their childhood days on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Micronesian Repatriation Association, Tajima noted, used to send a delegation comprising hundreds of members

for their memorial services.

"The number of participants is less because the members are getting old and travel from Okinawa to Saipan has become difficult," she explained.

According to Tajima, some of the group's members have also passed away, including former chairman Choen Ginoza, who died last year.

"It is very sad, but they will pass it on to the next generation, to their children and grandchil-

dren. They are the ones who will continue to visit us every year," she said.

Tajima said it is also a great honor for PDI, which arranges the group's travel arrangements every year, to assist the Okinawa memorial group through the years.

"We should never forget about the terrible war and the longstanding friendship and bond between the people of Okinawa and CNMI will re-

main. As long as their voyage continues, we will support them as much as possible," she said.

Tajima said the Okinawa memorial group also hopes to meet with the students from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota that they hosted through their cultural exchange program with the CNMI.

For more information, contact PDI's Gordon Marciano at 287-1195 or Hiroko Tajima at 287-8780.

## Proclamations honor veterans, CNMI-PH ties, historic preservation, and bilingual education

By CLARISSA V. DAVID  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Department of Public Health's conference room on Navy Hill was packed Wednesday morning, with Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos signing four different proclamations.

Inos first declared May 25 to 31 as Memorial Week to "pay tribute to fallen veterans for their unselfish and dedicated service in defending our country."

Inos, in his proclamation, said the noble sacrifices of the Commonwealth's service men and women will not be forgotten. "We stand with the families who grieve, and share in their sorrow and great pride."

CNMI Military and Veterans Affairs executive officer Ruth Coleman, who read the proclamation, urged the public to honor not just the fallen service men and women but also the living veterans and those currently deployed.

According to Coleman, there are some 1,481 veterans residing in the CNMI, with about 101 on Tinian, some 98 on Rota, and the rest on Saipan.

She said there are currently 127 retirees on island and about 300 service men and women serving in all military branches stationed in different parts of the world. "I ask that you continue to keep them in your prayers," she urged.

The 14 fallen service members will be honored in activities lined up to celebrate Memorial Week, including a softball event, the Services to the Armed Forces Health & Well Being Workshop of the American Red Cross, and the Memorial Day celebration at the CNMI Veterans Cemetery in Marpi on Monday.

### NMI-PH Friendship Month

Inos also designated June as NMI-Philippine Friendship Month, saying that the peoples of the CNMI and the Philippines share common bonds such as their Christian faith and Spanish heritage. This relationship, Inos said, was enhanced by the arrival of skilled Filipino workers on the islands.

"I am especially happy that many of you call the CNMI and Saipan home. We are just one big family and let's continue to

be that way," he told members of the Filipino community that witnessed the event.

Philippine Consul General Medardo Macaraig noted that the relationship of the Commonwealth and the Philippines are "at the crossroads" due to the transition to federalization and the economic situation on the islands.

"These difficulties would have easily destroyed lesser friendships. But the relationship that we have forged remains resilient and strong. It is heartening that despite the travails we are going through, the [CNMI] continues to consider us friends and give us great honor and pride with the recognition of our contributions," he added.

### Historic Preservation Week

Inos urged residents to recognize the importance of historic preservation as he declared May 23 to 31 Historic Preservation Week.

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs Secretary Melvin Faisao said the week-long celebration is part of the observance of May as National

Preservation Month nationwide. This year's theme is "Celebrating America's Treasures."

Faisao said the occasion aims "to provide an opportunity for showcasing the diverse and unique heritage found in the CNMI" and to enable more community members "to become involved in the growing preservation movement."

Activities for the week include class presentations and open house of the Historic Preservation Offices on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

### PIBBA Month

The last proclamation Inos signed designates June as Pacific Islands Bilingual/Bicultural Association Month.

The group, formally organized in January 1980, promotes bilingual education and unity among Pacific Islands in matters relating to bilingualism.

"PIBBA will serve as a forum for the Pacific community to share research findings, data and strategies in the instructions of indigenous languages in the classroom," the proclamation states.

PIBBA officers and members, headed by chair Diana H. Borja, as well as other indigenous residents witnessed the proclamation signing, during which they discussed the planned PIBBA 2011 conference with the theme "The Challenges of Economic Realities in the Pacific: *Fuetsan I Llinguahi Yan Kuttura*."

## Public hearings on Saipan casino bill

The Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's committees on Judiciary and Government Operation and Ways and Means will be conducting public hearings for House Local Bills 17-44, or the Saipan and Northern Islands Casino Control Act of 2011 at the following locations:

- Tuesday, May 31, CNMI Legislature, Capital Hill, 6pm
- Thursday, June 2, Garapan Elementary School, 6pm
- Monday, June 6, Tanapag Elementary School, 6pm
- Wednesday, June 8, Dandan Elementary School, 6pm
- Friday, June 10, Kagman Elementary School, 6pm
- Monday, June 13, Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe, 6pm

For copies of HLB 17-44 visit [www.cnmileg.gov.mp](http://www.cnmileg.gov.mp). Members of the public are encouraged to submit written comments three days prior to the public hearing. Contact the offices of Rep. Joseph M. Palacios (664-8830; [rep.palaciosj@cnmileg.gov.mp](mailto:rep.palaciosj@cnmileg.gov.mp)) or Rep. Ray M. Yumul (664-8826; [rayyumul@saipan.com](mailto:rayyumul@saipan.com)) for further information. (PR)



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos is flanked by officials and staff of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and the CNMI Historic Preservation Office after signing the proclamation declaring May 23 to 31 as Historic Preservation Week at the Public Health Secretary's Conference Room on Wednesday.



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Officers and members of the Pacific Islands Bilingual/Bicultural Association flank Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos during the proclamation signing declaring June as PIBBA Month yesterday morning.



# Kilili: \$2.6M in FEMA funds for NMI

WASHINGTON, D.C.—CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan said yesterday that nearly \$2.6 million in grant funding has been made available to the CNMI government through a variety of Federal Emergency Management Agency programs.

The formula-based allocations require the CNMI government to submit grant applications no later than June 20,

2011. Additional funds are also available to the local government through other competitive grant programs at FEMA.

“These grant allocations make substantial funds available to the government of the CNMI for emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response, and recovery,” Sablan said.

The funds allocated to the CNMI include \$556,393 for the

Drivers License Security Grant, \$853,295 for the Emergency Management Performance Grant, \$1,157,680 for the State Homeland Security Grant, and for the \$25,877 Citizen Corps Grant. “The funds are intended to address important local, as well as national, security interests,” Sablan said. “And they will also help stimulate much-needed economic activity in the Commonwealth.” (PR)



## INSURERS' DONATION

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Northern Mariana Islands Insurance Association president Eli Buenaventura, second from left, hands over a \$500 donation to NMI Japan Disaster Relief representative Yoichi Matsumura, second from right, at *Saipan Tribune's* office yesterday. Also in the photo are Century Insurance operations manager Gol Corpuz, leftmost, and Century Insurance general manager Nel L. Matanguihan.

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### USS Cowpens arriving today

The USS *Cowpens*, a CG-63 567-foot Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser, will arrive at Charlie Dock this morning around 10am. The USS *Cowpens* will carry 315 officers and crew and will making its fourth visit to Saipan; the first was Jan. 30, 2002. The Chamber is urging the community to help build the CNMI's reputation as the preferred MWR (Morale, Welfare, and Recreation) destination in the Asia-Pacific Region by warmly welcoming these sailors to the islands. The USS *Cowpens* is scheduled to depart in the middle of next week. (SCC)

### Broadband townhall meeting on Rota today

One Economy, CNMI Department of Commerce, BroadMap LLC, and the New America Foundation will be conducting a townhall meeting today, May 26, 2011, 6:30pm at the Round House, Songsong Village, Rota, to understand residents' attitudes toward broadband. (PR)

### SHRM monthly meeting today

“Immigration Law's Impact on IRs & Other Nonresidents” will be the topic in today's general membership meeting of the CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management. Lawyers Bruce Mailman and Maya Kara will make the presentation during the lunch meeting at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret from 11:30am to 1:30pm. This presentation is open to the public. The presentation includes lunch and the cost is \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. (PR)

### Services to US armed forces

The American Red Cross–NMI Chapter is inviting all U.S. military service members—active, reserve, Guard, and veterans—to attend a “Health & Well Being Workshop” on Saturday, May 28, 2011, at the Pacific Islands Club's Charley's Cabaret.

The workshop, from 8:30am to 12pm, will feature:

- Red Cross “Get to Know Us” briefing
  - Ruth Coleman of Veterans affairs
  - VA clinic Medical Associates of the Pacific, LLC.
  - VFW Post Commander
- The workshop, breakfast,

lunch, and park passes will be provided free of charge for all qualified military service members (DD-214). Military service members are allowed to bring two dependents. For more information or to register call or email Leah A. Murphy, Red Cross SAF Coordinator, at 234-3459 or leah.murphy670@gmail.com. (PR)

### MHS Class of 1991 sets reunion meeting

The Marianas High School Class of 1991 will be having its 20<sup>th</sup> reunion. Class members will be meeting on June 3, 2011, at the 13 Fishermen's Pavilion (2nd Pavilion) on Beach Road at 6pm to plan for the reunion. (PR)

### Sengebau Poetry Competition postponed

The NMI Council for the Humanities 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Sengebau Poetry Competition has been postponed to October 2011 and will be included in the upcoming celebration of Humanities Month. (PR)

### SCC Corporate Challenge set

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce will hold its annual SCC Corporate Challenge Sunday, May 29, 2011, at the Minatchom Atdao in Susupe at 9:30am. Registration begins at 7:30am. To date, 10 teams have submitted applications. SCC traditionally accepts entries from SCC only, but this year has decided to open up registration to non-SCC member companies. SCC members can enter for \$300 and non-SCC member entry is \$400. The SCC Corporate Challenge is a fun event that can be used as a company outing or employee appreciation day. There are competitive races and games with prizes, and a judged tent competition. This year's theme is “Island Style Recycling” where recycled material will be used to decorate individual corporate entry tents. A panel of judges will decide the winners. (SCC)

### Registration info for UOG's summer sessions

New student registration for the University of Guam's summer sessions will be held May 26 and 27 by appointment only. Contact the Student Life Office at 735-2271 for the orientation schedule. Late registration for summer session A will be held May 31, 2011. Summer Session A runs May

31 – July 1. Late registration for Summer Session B will be held June 13, 2011. Session B runs June 13- July 29. Late registration for Summer Session C will be held July 5. Session C runs July 5 – August 6. For payment deadlines visit [www.uog.edu](http://www.uog.edu). (UOG)

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# Archibald retires as Judiciary's IT system administrator



Judiciary information technology system administrator Wayne Archibald, third from right, holds his plaque of appreciation while posing with, from left, Associate Judge Perry Inos, Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo, Presiding Judge Robert Naraja, Associate Justice John Manglona, Associate Judge David Wiseman, and Associate Judge Ramona Manglona.



Judiciary information technology system administrator Wayne Archibald poses with other Judiciary staff and personnel.

Justices, judges, and staff of the CNMI Judiciary gathered at a retirement celebration Tuesday for one of their favorite co-workers, Wayne M. Archibald, who, for a combined 10 years, served the Judiciary as its system administrator for information and technology and was, for two years, with the Criminal Justice Planning Agency. His significant accomplishments and contribution have led to the enhanced functioning of the criminal justice system.

Early in his tenure Archibald coordinated the installation of the first electronic case tracking system, Evans Caseload. He

later oversaw the upgrade of the Judiciary's case management system with the installation of New Dawn's Justware, Laserfiche document imaging, the trial court's bar code filing system, the probation tracking system, and integration of the LexisNexis electronic filing system. Additionally, he installed search protocols for the criminal record history and traffic clearance programs with the Office of the Clerk of Court in the Superior Court. Archibald played an integral role in overseeing the networking of and interconnectivity features for all Judiciary divisions, courtrooms, and chambers on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian.

Archibald also assisted the Judiciary in its partnership with other criminal justice agency stakeholders by extending his expertise to the Criminal Justice Planning Agency, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Public Safety, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Division of Youth Services. His guidance, through the administration of subgrant awards from the Criminal Justice Planning Agency, benefited the Commonwealth in the form of automation projects, equipment upgrades, security modules, program review, and project visioning for the Criminal

Justice Information System.

An appreciation plaque from the three Supreme Court justices and five Superior Court judges was presented to Archibald, commemorating his service to the CNMI.

Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, before the presentation, said: "Wayne spoke the language of computers and during his tenure moved the Judiciary forward in large strides, streamlining and enhancing caseload management, information sharing, retrieval and security, all the while with a warm personable style. He will be greatly missed." (CNMI Judiciary)

## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



To my one and only daughter, DaisyAnn Marie Lizama (Ngeskebei), who is celebrating her 21st birthday today, May 26, in Guam, we hope that you will enjoy your special day and may the Lord bless this day with families and friends around you. Greetings come from Daddy Dennis Ngeskebei, Mommy Linda Lizama, Peter Anthony Ngeskebei, and especially your niece Ki'llani C. Ngeskebei, Karen C., Grandma Maria B. Lizama, Nang Neives Ngeskebei, and the rest of the family. We miss you a lot! God bless!

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



A big birthday shoutout to an awesome mother, sister, and aunt, Connie Santos Agulto, who turns...a year younger today, May 26! Enjoy your day; we love you! Greetings come from your Agulto family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



## 40TH ANNIVERSARY

Belated happy 40th anniversary to our Grandma and Grandpa, Mr. and Mrs. David Atoigwe! We love and miss you very much! With much love, greetings come from your grandchildren near and far.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 26, 1999

### CPA's aviation revenues up 75 percent

Operating revenues of the aviation division jumped by 75 percent in April amounting to \$927,441 compared to the same period last fiscal year, according to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Based on CPA's monthly financial report, both Japan Airlines and Asiana Airlines registered an increase in passenger arrivals despite the 14 percent cumulative decline on departing international passengers brought about by the low traffic of Continental Airlines and Northwest Airlines. For the past seven months of fiscal year 1999, the ports authority was able to significantly reduce the operating expenses excluding the non-cash items by over \$1.3 million compared to the same period of fiscal year 1998.

### Bill allows court to dip into trust funds

As part of the efforts to raise badly-needed revenues, the Legislature will authorize the Superior Court to make money from the trust funds temporarily entrusted to the judiciary as well as from individuals convicted of criminal offense. Under a bill offered by Rep. Heinz Hofschneider, chair of the House committee on Health, Education and Welfare, the court will be allowed to deposit trust funds in the banks at no cost to the government to earn interests whose proceeds shall then be used to administer the program. Likewise, the measure will impose an assessment on all persons who are convicted of a criminal offense, ranging from \$10 in the case of an infraction to as much as \$400 for a felony.

May 26, 2000

### US House committee decides on \$11M funding for CNMI

The U.S. House Appropriations Committee was scheduled to vote Thursday morning in Washington D.C. (late last night in local time) on the Department of the Interior's budget for FY 2001 which included allocation to the CNMI amounting to \$11 million. Commonwealth officials expressed hope to keep the federal assistance for the next fiscal year that represents construction grants provided under the Section 702 of the Covenant/ Capital Improvement Projects agreement. The House Appropriations scheduled the full committee mark-up at 9:30 a.m. Thursday (D.C. time), which was 12:30 a.m. Friday on Saipan.

### Private schools criticizes scholarship bill

The Coalition of Private Schools is opposing a professional scholarship program proposed by the House Committee on Education, citing the legislation's vagueness in addressing the Commonwealth's scholarship needs. Scott Norman, Coalition of Private Schools president, has made vocal the group's stance that the bill is "too open ended and is extremely unclear in several of its sections" and that there are other similar legislation awaiting enactment at the House. Mr. Norman has instead suggested that a research team be established, including a private sector, to consolidate all proposed bills on scholarship into one piece of legislation.

May 26, 2003

### Ash cloud moves away from NMI

Anatahan's erupting volcano continued to emit plume of ashes yesterday, but the ash cloud moved southeasterly yesterday, sparing Saipan from the ash fall that was seen throughout the island Friday and Saturday. Emergency Management Office director Rudolfo Pua said, however, that the ash advisory released Friday remained in effect as of yesterday. "I just want to be on the safe side," Pua said. He said the advisory would be cancelled when typhoon Chan-hom completely leaves the Marianas region. Chan-hom, which was packing almost super-typhoon strength of 130mph winds, was located on the eastern side of the Northern Islands as of yesterday afternoon.

### Ex-TCGCC chief sues Fund

Former Immigration chief Jose P. Mafnas has sued the NMI Retirement Fund over a contributions and benefits dispute. Mafnas, who later became chairman of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission after retiring from his government tenure, wants the Superior Court to render null and void the Fund's administrative decision refusing to refund his contributions as TCGCC chair. Mafnas, through his lawyer Perry B. Inos, also wants deducted sums from his retirement benefits be returned to him, and that he be paid his benefits free from adjustments. The Fund decided to withhold the refund to offset alleged wrongful retirement pensions Mafnas continued to receive from Feb. 2, 1994, to Dec. 31, 1996, when he assumed the TCGCC chairmanship.



# \$6M-plus ad exposure for NMI

The Marianas Visitors Authority is welcoming four media familiarization tours this week for coverage expected to bring the Northern Mariana Islands at least \$6 million in advertising exposure value.

A crew from the highly acclaimed television travel documentary series *Globe Trekker* (formerly *Lonely Planet*) arrives on Saipan on Saturday, May 28, to work on a 5-10 minute segment on Saipan and Tinian. *Global Trekker* has been the world's most watched TV travel show since 1998 and has won over 30 international awards. It broadcasts to 30 million viewers in over 40 countries on channels including PBS and Discovery in the United States. The aim behind the *Globe Trekker* series is to convey the beauty and diversity of the cities and countries visited.

"We have a large American and European audience, who are discerning and curious travelers, seeking exclusive and interesting places to stay, as well as enticing places to enjoy the best food in the region," states the promotional material of the show's production company Pilot Film & Television

Productions.

Last Sunday, May 22, the crew of the Korean sitcom *All My Love* arrived on Saipan to tape for the show. *All My Love* airs on MBV TV, one of the top three nationwide TV channels in Korea. Due to the high viewership—over 10 percent of the total TV audience—MBC has extended the show's total number of episodes from 120 to 200. Scenes from Northern Mariana, including Mañagaha Island, San Antonio Beach, Bird Island, and Banzai Cliff—will receive 90 minutes of air time at an estimated ad value of over \$4.2 million U.S. dollars.

"The extensive coverage the Northern Marianas will receive from this major TV channel will help raise the awareness of our island destination for the families planning their summer vacation trips overseas," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman.

The *All My Love* familiarization tour is also supported by Pacific Islands Club Saipan and Asiana Airlines.

Monthly travel magazine *Travie* will be on Saipan from Thursday, May 26, to Sunday, May 29,

to prepare a 12-page feature on the islands, focusing on culinary culture and local events. The magazine will provide extensive coverage of Saipan, including the annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden and the Garapan Street Market. Established in May 2005, the magazine provides travel destination information for FITs—free and independent travelers. The media tour is also supported by Hyatt Regency Saipan.

"For the large return on our investment, we are pleased to support FAM tours like this week's with support such as ground transportation, guides, film permit processing and entry facilitation," said Bateman. "Coupled with the support offered by our tourism industry partners, the Northern Marianas can offer an enticing package to media groups that, in turn, provide us with international ad exposure we couldn't otherwise afford."

One of the two English newspapers published daily in Korea, the *Korea Times*, has also arranged a media tour this week with major sponsorship by Laolao Bay Golf Resort. (MVA)

## Parties' lack of action threatens lawsuit

The federal court has ordered the parties in a discrimination lawsuit filed against a defunct garment manufacturer to explain why the court should not dismiss the case for failure to prosecute.

U.S. District Court for the NMI visiting judge Consuelo B. Marshall said that Reynaldo L. Garcia's lawsuit against Poong-In Saipan Inc. has been pending for more than six months with-

out any action taken by the parties in that period.

The judge gave Garcia and Poong-In Saipan Inc. until Friday to show cause why the court should not dismiss the case.

Then U.S. District Court for the NMI chief judge Alex Munson also held a show cause hearing on Sept. 4, 2008, for failure to prosecute. Attorney Stephen Woodruff, counsel for Garcia, appeared at the hearing and argued.

Munson granted Garcia 60 days to serve the complaint to the defendant. The judge warned that failure to comply with his order may result in the dismissal of the case.

Garcia, a Filipino maintenance mechanic, alleged that because of his national origin, Poong-In did not renew his contract and instead hired some Chinese nationals.

Garcia was hired in 2004 and worked for the company until his contract expired on July 9, 2006, after which he was not renewed.

According to the complaint, the factory's resident manager even cited Garcia as being a "well-rounded employee" who has "a very positive attitude."

In January 2008, the Afetnas-based factory shut down, rendering over 100 alien workers jobless. (Ferdie de la Torre)

## UOG Green hosts My Green Community Day

UOG Green will host My Green Community Day, an event featuring local farmers selling homegrown plants and produce, on Friday, May 27, 2011 at the Jesus and Eugenia Leon Guerrero School of Business and Public Administration Building beginning at 9am.

Every last Friday of the month, UOG Green collects shredded paper from the UOG campus community and donates it to local farmers to be used as mulch. This month's collection will also include an opportunity for local farmers to sell their products such as fruits, vegetables, and small plants.

"My Green Community Day allows local farmers to showcase their homegrown products to customers," said UOG Green Sustainability coordinator Elvie Tyler. "This activity promotes island sustainability by providing an opportunity for residents to purchase local produce which will eventually reduce our reliance on imported products."

The event is open to the public and runs from 9am to 3pm. (UOG)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

### ETC DONATION

Calvary Christian Academy receives an Educational Tax Credit donation from First Hawaiian Bank. Victoria Concepcion, assistant vice president and branch manager of the Oleai branch of First Hawaiian Bank, presents a \$1,250 check to Scott Norman, principal of Calvary Christian Academy. "We are extremely thankful to First Hawaiian Bank for their kind contribution through Public Law 10-73," said Norman. "Our students, along with many others in the CNMI, continue to benefit because of this progressive and positive law."



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Office of the Secretary of Public Works  
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai  
Saipan, MP 96950



### INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW11-IFB-011

#### SUGAR DOCK DREDGING IN SUSUPE

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Sugar Dock Dredging in Susupe, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package will be available on or after **May 12, 2011** at DPW Technical Services Division 1353 Mednilla Avenue Capitol Hill. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at DPW Technical Services Division.

All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001. Preference is available to US Citizen as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118. Prospective bidders claiming for US Citizen preference are required to submit *PeS Form 100 (Revised 12/20/07)* with their sealed bids.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on **May 31, 2011**, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Division of Fish & Wildlife Conference Room. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **June 7, 2011** to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Acting Director** of Technical Services Division, DPW 1353 Mednilla Avenue Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m.

Prospective bidders should examine and review the invitation for bids with care. If it should appear to a prospective bidder that the performance of the work under the contract or any of the matters relative thereto is not sufficiently described or explained in the invitation for bids, or that any discrepancy exists between different parts of the invitation for bids, or that the full intent of the invitation for bids is not clear, then the prospective bidder shall submit a written request for clarification no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening at 4:30 pm to **Mr. Anthony A. Camacho, Acting Director of Technical Services Division**, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

The prospective bidder shall examine carefully the site of the proposed work and the invitation for bids before submitting a bid.

The Contracting Officer (CO) may, upon recommendation of the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR), issue an addendum notifying all prospective bidders known to have received an invitation for bids, or if issued after the deadline for submission of the notice of intention to bid, to those persons who submitted such notice, of any changes to the invitation for bids. The Department of Public Works will make every reasonable attempt to notify all persons who have obtained the invitation for bids from the Technical Services Division by telephone to pick up the addendum or if the CO chooses, the addendum may be mailed or delivered personally or by facsimile machine. If the bid proposal requires the acknowledgement of addenda, the prospective bidder shall indicate the date of each addendum in the space provided. **It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to confirm the existence of any addendum by telephoning the COTR at (670) 234-9828/38 no later than ten (10) working days before the scheduled bid opening.**

Sealed bids must be marked "DPW11-IFB-011". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time **June 10, 2011**. Bidders located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, **June 10, 2011**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to [procurement@pricom.com](mailto:procurement@pricom.com). For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **June 10, 2011**, and must be received no later than **June 22, 2011**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, **June 27, 2011**. However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on **June 15, 2011**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. A **surety company shall hold the Certificate of Authority (COA) from the U.S. Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General and must accompany the bid**. Bid security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with NMIAC §70-30.3-301 of the Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Department of Treasury as an acceptable surety and must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI. In addition, the contractor will be required to deliver a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments or other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is Thirty (30) Calendar days upon issuance of an official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) per calendar day for delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ MARTIN C. SABLAN  
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
Director of Procurement & Supply

/s/ Dr. IGNACIO T. DELA CRUZ, DVM  
Secretary, Department of Lands and natural Resources



### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP11-DEQ-088

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 23, 2011 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

#### "CONDUCT HISTORICAL RESEARCH FOR INFORMATION AND INVENTORY OF POTENTIAL UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE (UXO) SITES WITHIN SUBMERGED LANDS OF THE CNMI FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT IS AVAILABLE AT THE DEQ OFFICE OR CAN BE RECEIVED ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO [raymasga@deq.gov.mp](mailto:raymasga@deq.gov.mp).

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MAY BE FAXED TO MR. RAY MASGA, MANAGER, SITE ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION BRANCH AT (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL TO [raymasga@deq.gov.mp](mailto:raymasga@deq.gov.mp) NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **JUNE 13, 2011**.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE **IS NOT AVAILABLE** BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT

/s/ FRANK M. RABULIMAN  
DIRECTOR, DEQ

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S



### PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT



### INVITATION FOR BID IFB11-OHS/DPS-078 (A)(B)(C)

SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 24, 2011 • TIME: 1:00 P.M.

#### "PURCHASE AND DELIVERY OF CLOTHING, ACCESSORIES AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE CNMI'S DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY"

PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS MAY RETRIEVE A COPY OF THE COMPLETE CONTENTS OF THE INVITATION FOR BIDS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. CARL DELA CRUZ, OHS PROCUREMENT OFFICER BY E-MAIL TO [ohs.delacruz@gmail.com](mailto:ohs.delacruz@gmail.com) NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2011.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE. BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ MARVIN K. SEMAN  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR  
HOMELAND SECURITY

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN  
DIRECTOR, P&S



# Opinion

Hafa Adai!

## Saipan Tribune

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Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## What Oprah wrought

**O**n Wednesday, the final episode of Oprah Winfrey's long-running TV talk show will air. In the 25 years since the show has been nationally syndicated, Winfrey—or, really, Oprah, since that is how she is globally known—has made herself a singular force in television and the popular culture. In that period, she has topped the daytime ratings as talk show host, earned an Oscar nomination for her acting, become a producer, launched her own magazine (which features her on the cover each month), catapulted the book sales of any author—dead or alive—that she favors with an Oprah's Book Club selection, and helped get the first black man elected president of the United States.

Not that she's retiring to her Montecito estate. She is turning her attention to her 5-month-old cable network, OWN, an ambitious venture that has had a rocky start.

Winfrey is not a great journalist, actress (despite the Oscar nod for her role in "The Color Purple"), literary critic or political strategist. Instead, she is an extraordinary self-creation—as many powerful people are—who helped forge a sea change in the way the culture looks at black women in particular and black people in general.

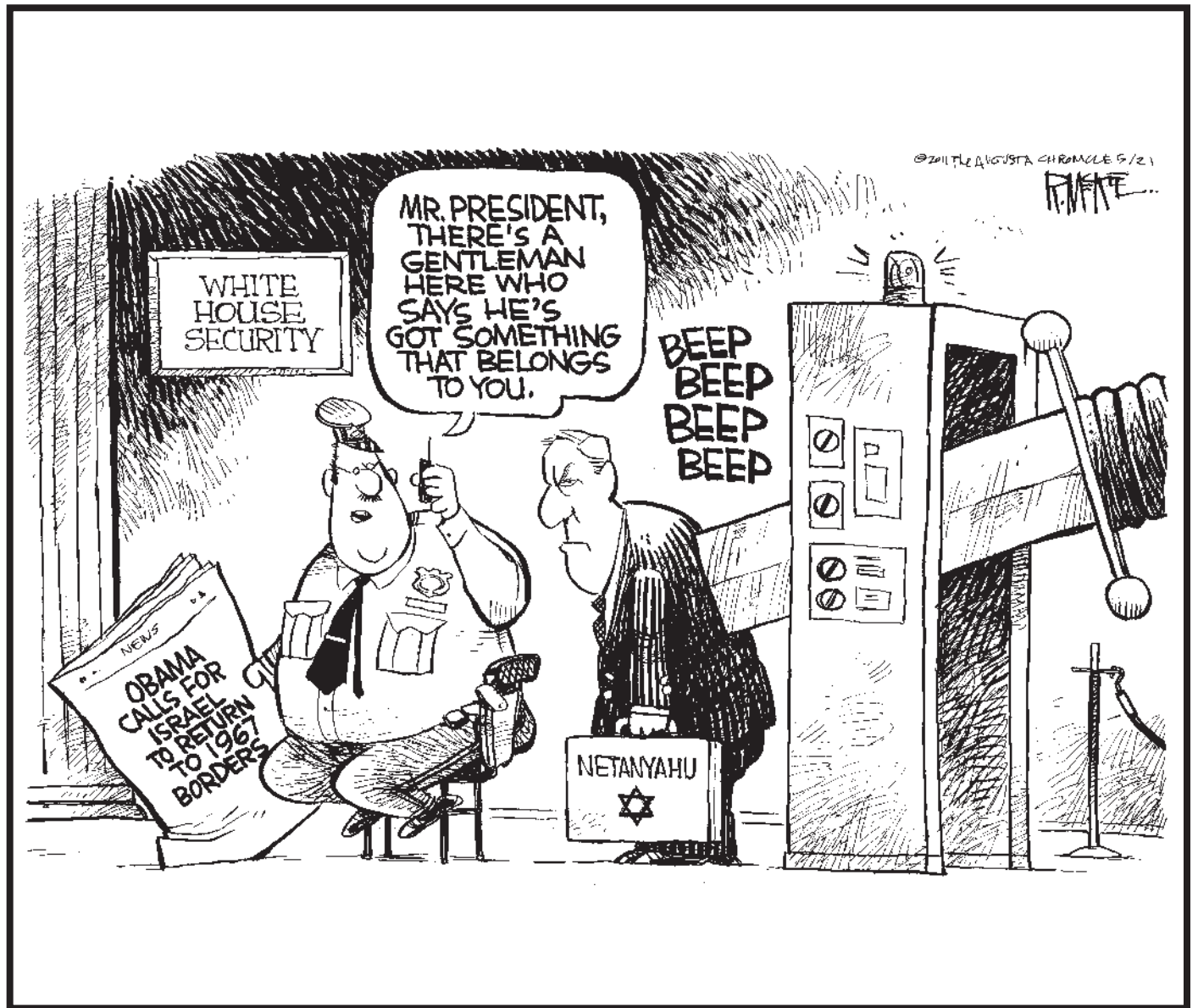
Of course, she is only one small piece of the huge cultural shift in attitudes about race that the U.S. has been undergoing for more than half a century. Still, the cross-over embrace of her show—even the cultish devotion to her and her talk show aphorisms—has helped make it utterly normal for a mainstream audience to accept black professionals, not just performers. Along the way, she arguably laid some of the social groundwork for a black president.

And she did it in the prosaic, often middlebrow realm of the daytime talk show. She proved canny at laying bare the problems of life that beset us all and became a kind of life coach extraordinaire. Never resorting to clownish antics, she carried herself with a sophisticated aura (few could afford those diamond earrings she wears in the afternoon) but also projected empathy. Most famously, she continually shared her struggles with the battle that so many Americans seem obsessed with—weight.

All of that proved to the world—if people doubted it—that a black woman could be charismatic, immensely wealthy, loved and feared.

Without Oprah, the landscape of daytime broadcast TV is overwhelmingly white. And surprisingly, most of the on-air hosts and main personalities on Oprah's cable network are white as well. Oprah herself is expected to have some kind of on-air presence, but more diversity would be even better. Surely Oprah, of all people, should be able to make that happen.

(c) 2011, Los Angeles Times



## Getting unstuck

**I**s it possible to move your businesses from stagnation to growth in these tough economic times? Last week, I talked about how a lot of business owners feel stuck and don't know what to do next to improve their situation, and I suggested that a challenge similar to the recent Gold's Gym Transformation Challenge might be the catalyst to get them unstuck.

I believe that business activity drives the economy. Yes, we do get a lot of federal and local funds to support projects, but where does the government get its money? The answer: By taxing individuals and businesses. And who pays individuals? Most get paid working for businesses or the government—which get their money from businesses. So, you can see that it all really starts with business activities, or when consumers pay for goods and services offered by businesses. Therefore, if businesses grow and prosper it will then create greater economic growth.

The key, then, to greater prosperity is to assist local businesses to prosper. This will create more jobs, reduce the "brain drain" of losing good people due to increasing cuts or lack of jobs, create greater economic and social stability, and ultimately improve the standard of living and quality of life. Now the \$64,000 question is: "What would best help local businesses grow?"

There are already numerous government and private-sector organizations and people who offer solutions to start-up and established businesses to help them grow their businesses. If all of their resources were combined in a collaborative effort to offer greater benefit to businesses, they would then have the tools, training, and services that could help them grow their businesses. However, unmet needs that business owners have should also be identified in order to enhance their growth.

In my work with hundreds of businesses, ranging from start-ups to well-established corporations, there are three reasons why they tend to get stuck: First, they have lost belief in themselves, their business, or the economy and have just hunkered down in hopes that they'll survive long enough for things to improve. This has caused them to stop or limit their advertising, staff training, or making a continued effort to improve their business. This mentality creates a vicious downward cycle where the focus is on cutting costs and trying to make payroll, rather than instilling growth thinking into every aspect of their business.

Second, they don't have a detailed strategic plan that identifies their highest level activities or specific performance growth expectations they can monitor on a consistent basis. Instead they just "shoot from the hip" and hope things turn out for the best.

And third, these stuck businesses don't know how to set spe-

By **RIK VILLEGAS**  
Special to the Tribune

Rik Villegas is a writer, business consultant and instructor at Northern Marianas College. He can be contacted at [RikVillegas@gmail.com](mailto:RikVillegas@gmail.com), and you can comment on this article at <http://rikv.blogspot.com>.



cific goals that will lead them to a desired outcome for their business. Their mental and emotional goal is to just survive another day, week, or month. Since they don't have goals, it means that they haven't identified the resources that will best help them reach their goals.

I believe that a business challenge should address all three reasons and also provide the necessary resources to help them grow their business. This could include financial support, information and training, or it could come from forums to express ideas and brainstorm solutions. It may also involve strategic alliances with businesses to enhance distribution channels, gain additional customers, improve operations, and cut costs. Improving customer service should also be an objective, since this creates more loyal customers who return more often and tell their friends about businesses that have great service.

It's also essential to have a plan of action that allows everyone to get on board and know the highest value activities the company should focus on to achieve its goals. However, many individuals tend to avoid the difficult task of writing a business plan, and the reality is that only a small percentage of those plans actually get implemented. So, it would be ideal to have a concise plan that fits on one sheet of paper. This would also allow everyone to be on the "same page" when it comes to knowing what is the most important thing to do next.

I'm meeting with some established business owners and key individuals in various government agencies to discuss the things that businesses need to improve the economy, and then how it can be delivered in a simple, affordable, and effective manner that allows every participating business to see results right away. If everything works out well, we should be able to identify the services that are currently available to deliver key benefits and possibly create additional benefits that will help businesses get unstuck and improve their sales and profits.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com); or through our website at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

## Umbrellas and smuggling: The courts speak

We have been carefully monitoring decisions coming out of the local Immigration Court, as well as the federal District Court, to see how federal judges are interpreting provisions of the CNRA (aka “federalization law”) and of the INA (“Immigration and Naturalization Act”) as applied to persons in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Two recent cases have caught our attention: a human smuggling case and a conditional umbrella permit case. We’ve been getting lots of questions about both of them; there is a great deal of confusion about what each means.

### 1. Is unauthorized travel from the CNMI to Guam a crime? Can anyone admitted to the CNMI travel to Guam or the rest of the U.S.?

The smuggling case is *US v. Li*, decided by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on May 2, 2011, available at <http://tinyurl.com/3uhpuve>:

In early 2010 a group of Chinese citizens, who intended to travel from Saipan to Guam by boat, without government permission, were arrested by federal agents and charged with the federal crime of “attempting to enter the United States at a time or place not designated by immigration officers.” That’s a polite way to say “they were being smuggled into the U.S.” The federal statute, 8 USC § 1325(a)(1), is a misdemeanor with a maximum sentence of six months; most of the people charged in this particular scheme chose not to contest the charge, pleaded guilty, and were sentenced to a year of probation, with no jail time other than immediately after the original arrests.

Of course, having this kind of conviction (or any kind) does not look so good on your record, and three of the “smugglers” appealed their convictions. They pointed out that the CNRA included the CNMI within the geographical boundaries of the United States for immigration purposes, beginning Nov. 28, 2009. Therefore, they argued, they could not have attempted to illegally enter the U.S., because by being in the CNMI they were already in the U.S.

**(a) It’s not a crime:** The local federal court held against them, reasoning that because certain exceptions from U.S. immigration law apply to the CNMI during the transition period, currently scheduled to end on Dec. 31, 2014, the CNMI was not yet fully part of the U.S. for immigration purposes. On appeal, the government also argued that even if the CNMI is fully part of the U.S. for immigration purposes, the smuggling would violate the law by leaving the CNMI and traveling through international waters between the CNMI and Guam, and then entering Guam.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals disagreed with both arguments. First, the Ninth Circuit panel of three judges held that the CNRA and the INA are clear that as of Nov. 28, 2009, the CNMI is inside the boundaries of the U.S., regardless of the temporary exceptions to U.S. immigration law. Then, although the appeals court agreed that a boat traveling between the CNMI and Guam necessarily passes through international waters, the boat’s passengers do not as a result leave and then re-enter the U.S. The court cited federal cases going back to 1929 that reached the same result.

Therefore, an alien whose trip (or, as in this case, whose attempted trip) between the CNMI and any other part of the U.S. has not been authorized by the U.S. immigration authorities is not violating 8 USC § 1325(a)(1), the law criminalizing unlawful entry and unlawful attempted entry into the U.S.—because by being lawfully in the CNMI, they have already entered the U.S.

**(b) But it’s not travel authorization, either:** What does this mean to the average alien in the CNMI, who does not hold a U.S. visa or a form of parole authorizing travel to other parts of the U.S.? Is it OK to visit Guam for the weekend, because it’s not a crime? How about your favorite aunt in California? Your cousin in Tennessee?

Sorry, but the answer is no. Even if it is not a violation of 8 USC § 1325(a)(1), it is almost certainly a violation of some other federal law, whether or not the penalty is criminal or not. Here’s why:

An alien who has neither a U.S. visa nor parole allowing admission to the U.S. is inadmissible. Inadmissible aliens are subject to removal (deportation). For example, 8 USC § 1182(d)(7), also cited by the Ninth Circuit, requires that any alien denied admission to the U.S. “shall be immediately removed.” Although removal is not considered a criminal penalty, it is harsher than many criminal sanctions.

An alien who is in the CNMI by means of a CNMI-issued permit was restricted from travel to other parts of the U.S. and was only allowed to enter the CNMI. The CNRA’s inclusion of the CNMI

within the U.S. boundaries for immigration purposes did not change the terms and conditions of the CNMI-only entry allowed by these documents. Violation of the terms of entry, even of the legacy CNMI permits, may result in removal.

Advance parole issued by USCIS allows holders of these permits to leave the CNMI, travel to a foreign country, and return to the CNMI. Some forms of advance parole include permission to transit through the airport in Guam. Permission to enter Guam or the mainland U.S. requires an additional form of parole issued by USCIS, or one of the common forms of U.S. visa such as B1/B2 (business visitors and tourists).

Similarly, the CNMI-only federal visas, E2C and CW1 (still not available) will still be effective after the CNMI-issued permits expire on Nov. 27, 2011, but will allow entry to the CNMI only, and not to other parts of the U.S., without a U.S. visa or parole. Again, violation of the terms of these geographically limited visas may result in removal.

Just as there is no such thing as a free lunch, there is no such thing as a free pass at the immigration checkpoint.

### 2. Are all umbrella permits equal?

The second case is a removal that came before the local Immigration Court. Although there is an immigration court on Saipan, ordinarily there is no immigration judge physically present in the CNMI. Hearings are conducted by teleconference, with the judge and the prosecuting attorney in an immigration courtroom in Honolulu, and the respondent and defense attorney (if any) in the immigration courtroom on Saipan. All the participants see and hear each other on large television screens; the proceedings are recorded.

This case, *In the matter of Danilo Rejano*, defended by Saipan attorney Stephen C. Woodruff, involved a person who was in removal proceedings because the CNMI Department of Labor had placed him on a published “illegals list,” and referred him to ICE (“Immigration and Customs Enforcement”) for removal. Several things were seriously amiss with this scenario. First, Mr. Rejano had a conditional umbrella permit and second, the “illegals list” on which his name appeared was published by the CNMI government months after the federal takeover.

As most of us recall, the umbrella permit program was instituted in the very last weeks prior to Nov. 28, 2009. Umbrella permits were issued by the CNMI government as a last ditch effort to stabilize the work force and protect existing investment in the face of the oncoming transfer of immigration to U.S. control. In a move that was both pragmatic and humanitarian, most aliens with legal status were issued umbrella permits; many others with uncertain or undetermined status were also included. While the vast majority of umbrella permits were issued by the Division of Immigration (assisted by Department of Labor personnel), other agencies also participated: the Department of Commerce issued umbrella permits to long-term investors, retirees, and students. Most important to this case, the Attorney General issued “conditional umbrella permits” to 628 persons who had previously been deemed “overstayers” by the CNMI, by publication of a notice, with a list of the names of the permittees, in the local newspapers.

The conditional umbrella permits were issued under the authority of the Attorney General and published in the *Saipan Tribune* on Nov. 26, 2011, one day before the CNMI’s immigration authority expired. The day after the publication of the conditional umbrella permits list, there was an apparent scuffle within the CNMI government regarding the permits. The CNMI Department of Labor tried to backpedal and took the position that the conditional permits were invalid because they were not issued by Labor. Labor also issued a list of illegal aliens on March 10, 2010, which included the names of conditional umbrella permit holders.

We thought at the time that these post-Nov. 28 actions were ineffective, and the immigration judge agrees with us. On Nov. 26, 2009, the immigration authority of the CNMI was in the hands of the Attorney General; the Division of Immigration was under his control. The power to issue immigration-related permits rested with the Division of Immigration and the Attorney General, with the exception of the investor and student permits delegated to Commerce. It is a basic principle of law that the power to grant includes the power to revoke. Just as a law enacted by Congress can only be amended or repealed by Congress, a CMNI permit issued by the Attorney General can only be amended or revoked by him. Because there was never a revocation of the conditional umbrella permits by the Attorney General, either before or after

## IMMIGRATION FORUM

By MAYA KARA and  
BRUCE MAILMAN

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

the transition date, they are valid.

The CNMI and U.S. governments continue to differ on whether the CNMI retains the authority to revoke umbrella permits. The CNMI government takes the position that because all umbrella permits, conditional or otherwise, had conditions attached, the CNMI can revoke the permits if the conditions are violated. The U.S. government takes the position that the CNMI lost all immigration authority on Nov. 28, 2009, including the authority to revoke umbrella permits. Since all umbrella permits will expire by operation of law on Nov. 28, 2011, it is unlikely that this issue will be settled by litigation in the seven months that remain; after that the issue will be moot.

So how did all this affect Mr. Rejano? Well, the judge agreed that the conditional umbrella permit was a valid permit because it was never effectively revoked, and that Labor’s attempts to nullify the permits were not effective because the immigration authority had already passed to the U.S. Mr. Rejano was protected from removal by express provisions of the CNRA until Nov. 27, 2011.

How does this decision affect all other umbrella permit holders? First of all, the case is only useful to those in or threatened with removal proceedings. Second, the case is definitely helpful to anyone of the 628 on the conditional umbrella permit list. Third, if you have an umbrella permit of any kind, this case confirms that you protected from removal, under specific statutory provisions, until Nov. 28, 2011.

In the usual application of the INA, if an alien enters the country illegally, he is charged with being “present in the United States without having been admitted and paroled, or who arrived in the United States at any time or place other than as designated by the Attorney General.” INA Section 212 (a)(6)(A)(i). This section is generally referred to as “unlawful entry.” Mr. Rejano was charged with violating this section of the INA. If this provision were to be applied to all aliens in the CNMI, all aliens without a U.S. visa would be removable. This was clearly not the intention of the CNRA, which is why the statute provides specific protection from this ground of removal through Nov. 27, 2011. Despite this protection, ICE has been placing persons in the CNMI into removal on this basis. What this case makes clear is that as long as an alien can prove legal status on Nov. 28, 2009, as Mr. Rejano did with his conditional umbrella permit, there will be no removal on this basis.

Mr. Rejano was also charged with being an “intending immigrant” without proper visa or documentation. INA Section 212 (a)(6)(A)(i). This is a provision that is not affected by the CNRA shield. Nevertheless, Mr. Rejano was able to convince the judge that because he entered the CNMI under a valid nonimmigrant entry permit, at a time when the CNMI controlled its own immigration, he was not an intending immigrant and did not violate the law. This provision is potentially very useful to other aliens placed in removal proceedings because the decision clarifies and confirms that provisions of the INA need to be reasonably interpreted, in the light of unique local conditions, rather than uniformly applied as if this were the mainland USA. One size does not fit all.






*The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to [lexmarianas@pticom.com](mailto:lexmarianas@pticom.com). Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com).*



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

### Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼80
Palau	Rain	▲84 ▼77
Yap	Showers	▲84 ▼76
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼76
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲83 ▼77
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲86 ▼79
Majuro	Rain	▲83 ▼78

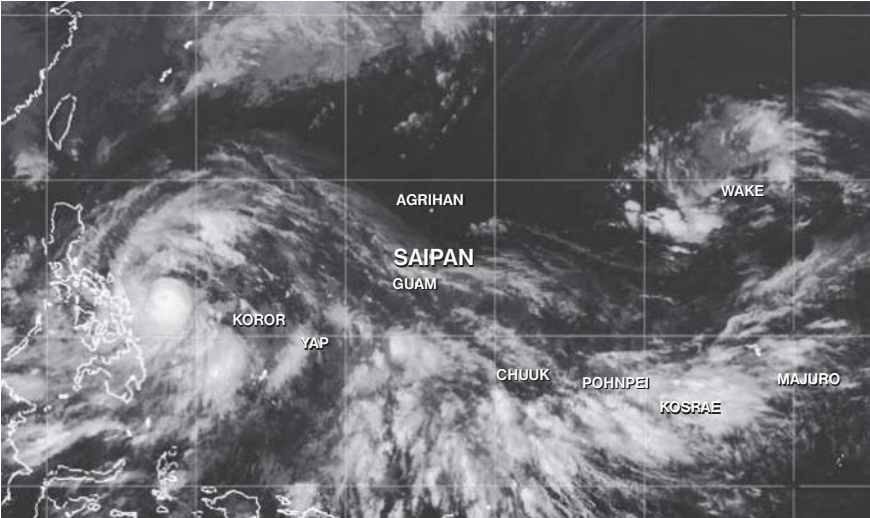
### Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲64 ▼59
Beijing	Sunny	▲86 ▼59
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	▲86 ▼77
Honolulu	Sunny	▲83 ▼74
London	Showers	▲62 ▼50
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲71 ▼58
Manila	Thundershowers	▲88 ▼80
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲59 ▼46
Miami	Mostly Sunny	▲88 ▼77
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲83 ▼65
Osaka	Showers	▲68 ▼64
Paris	Showers	▲67 ▼47
Pusan	Showers	▲67 ▼59
Rome	Thundershowers	▲80 ▼61
Salem	Showers	▲57 ▼49
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲60 ▼53
Seoul	Showers	▲71 ▼59
Tokyo	Showers	▲68 ▼64
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲91 ▼70

### Tides

Saipan Harbor			
2:50 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
9:37 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
2:59 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.3 Feet
8:49 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet

### Yesterday's Satellite Image



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2011**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends southeastward from 12N130E to end at 9N137E. West winds converging south of the trough axis are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Koror and Yap within an area bounded by a line from 12N130E to 10N139E to EQ130E back to 12N130E. Trade winds converging north of the trough axis are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms well north of Koror or west of a line from 14N133E to 19N137E. Trade-wind convergence is generating a broad area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Yap and Chuuk states to the south of a line from 10N140E to 10N147E to 5N151E. Similar weather covers much of Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae states as well a portion of the Republic of the Marshall Islands within 200 miles of a line from 3N153E to 5N160E to 6N169E. An upper-level low is centered at 19N165E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found southwest of Wake Island within 110 miles of a line from 18N160E to 16N164E. Similar weather is present northeast of Wake Island within 100 miles of a line from 24N166E to 19N170E.

### Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Saturday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Sunday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM
Monday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:59 AM	1:17 PM
Friday	1:34 AM	2:03 PM
Saturday	2:10 AM	2:50 PM
Sunday	2:47 AM	3:38 PM
Monday	3:26 AM	4:28 PM

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

- PICTURES**
  - ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
  - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
  - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
  - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
  - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
  - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
  - Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
  - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
  - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
  - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
  - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.
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  - Fax: (670) 235-3740
  - Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
  - Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  - To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747
- POLICY**
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  - The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
  - For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 10, 2011

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM				GUAM-SAIPAN			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily	C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6	C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7	5K389	1:35pm	2:25pm	1, 4, 6
5K382	6:00pm	6:50pm	2, 5, 7	C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:30pm	7:20pm	Daily	C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily	C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:00am	8:45am	Daily	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:20pm	Daily	DL288	8:05pm	12:35am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5	OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7	OZ605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
MU590	4:30am	7:20am	2, 6	MU589	8:50pm	3:30am+1	1, 5
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 5	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 4	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM	C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	Daily via NRT	OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
C09313/933	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM	C0892/9596	9:55pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09603/893	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN	PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 4, 7 via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:25am+1	3, 6 via GUM
				C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG				HONG KONG-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM	5K169	9:55am	5:00pm	2, 5, 7
5K168	3:25pm	6:35pm	1, 4, 6	OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
				C0910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana				ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)			

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
<b>Guam-Rota</b>				FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
<b>Rota-Saipan</b>				FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
FRE 400	17:50	18:20	Daily				
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				<b>Tinian-Saipan</b>			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
<b>Saipan-Rota</b>				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
<b>Rota-Guam</b>				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
<b>Saipan-Tinian</b>				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				



## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)



# Business

## Gates: Big budget cuts will diminish US influence

WASHINGTON (AP)—In a parting shot by one of the nation's longest-serving Pentagon chiefs, Robert Gates on Tuesday warned that shrinking defense budgets will mean a smaller military and a diminished American role in the world.

Gates, a self-described "old Cold Warrior" who will retire next month, said that barring a catastrophic world conflict or a new threat to the very existence of the U.S., there will be no foreseeable return to the booming Pentagon budgets of the past decade. "The money and the political support simply aren't there," he said.

This means the Obama administration and Congress must now decide how much military power the U.S. should give up, how that fits U.S. goals for maintaining global influence, and how to pay for it, Gates said.

"A smaller military, no matter how superb, will be able to go fewer places and be able to do fewer things," he said in a speech at the American Enter-



Defense Secretary Robert Gates pauses as he concludes his remarks at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research in Washington, Tuesday, May 24, 2011.

prise Institute, a conservative-leaning think tank that is generally hostile to defense cuts.

His speech marked the culmination of a series of recent remarks in which Gates has acknowledged that the Pentagon's

free-spending ways are ending, while also cautioning against budget cuts so deep as to "hollow out" the military. Warning against a temptation for the country to lower its guard and relax when threats seem less

pressing, he wants his legacy to be that he steered the Pentagon toward long-term stability.

The Pentagon's budget this year is \$530 billion, which Gates called the highest since World War II, adjusting for in-

flation. It pays not only for an Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps and their planes, ships and tanks, but also for a far-flung network of military bases at home and abroad. The Pentagon spends another \$150 billion on the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, although those costs are expected to fall in the years ahead.

President Barack Obama on April 13 announced a plan to reduce defense spending by \$400 billion over the next 12 years, and some in Congress—as well as some independent analysts—are calling for far deeper reductions. With an end in sight for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, defense savings are central to a broader effort to shrink government deficits; the shortfall in the current budget year alone is expected to reach \$1.5 trillion.

While noting that Americans are "tired of war," Gates insisted that a strong military will remain in U.S. interests.

"The tough choices ahead are really about the kind of role

the American people—accustomed to unquestioned military dominance for the past two decades—want their country to play in the world," Gates said.

"They need to understand what it could mean for a smaller pool of troops and their families if America is forced into a protracted land war again—yes, the kind no defense secretary should recommend anytime soon, but one we may not be able to avoid." He was not specific about future conflicts, but in the past he has raised the possibility of being drawn into a war on the Korean peninsula while also facing war-or-peace decisions on Iran.

Gates did not spell out his own proposed budget cuts or a vision for a re-ordered military. His press secretary, Geoff Morrell, said Gates instead will leave that to a Pentagon-wide strategy and budget review launched last month.

"He does not want to get out ahead of that process and constrain the review team's thinking," Morrell said.

## Regulators: Firms manipulated oil prices in 2008

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. commodity regulators are suing three companies and two individuals claiming they manipulated crude oil futures prices on the New York Mercantile Exchange over four months in 2008.

The Commodity Futures Trading Commission filed the civil complaint Tuesday in New York against Parnon Energy Inc., Arcadia Petroleum Ltd. and Arcadia Energy (Suisse) SA, and two men accused of directing the trading scheme: James T. Dyer of Australia and Nicholas J.

Wildgoose of California.

Regulators claim the defendants traded futures and other contracts based on the price of West Texas Intermediate light sweet crude oil, a benchmark for crude oil prices.

Then they allegedly took steps to artificially drive the price up, then back down, reaping more than \$50 million in unlawful profits.

The complaint seeks that the defendants give up profits from the scheme, among other penalties.

Regulators contend the defendants bought large quantities of oil, for which they had no commercial use, in order to artificially tighten the supply of crude oil at a major facility in Cushing, Okla. The supply at that facility is a key driver in the price of West Texas Intermediate light, sweet crude oil, so any tightening of supply moves prices higher.

With prices rising, the companies took a short position on oil derivatives and sold them off. Then, they'd sell off most of their oil in one day, pushing

supplies higher and prices lower to profit from their short derivatives position, regulators claim.

The price manipulation scheme allegedly took place between January and March 2008, and the companies tried it again the following month.

That period of time coincided with a sharp run-up in oil prices, fueled by speculation that soaring growth from China, India and other emerging economies would drive demand for crude. A weaker dollar helped drive up prices to a record \$147.27 a bar-

rel on July 11, 2008, as investors dumped investments in the U.S. currency for crude.

Prices, which many industry analysts described as out of control, began to collapse shortly

afterward as the world's biggest economies began to falter.

Pump prices hit the highest levels since 2008 earlier this month, but started falling as oil retreated from a high near \$114 a barrel.

## Flights canceled as volcanic ash touches Scotland

LONDON (AP)—Ash spewing from an Icelandic volcano is bringing disruption and days of uncertainty to more parts of Europe, as officials in Germany said dozens of flights will be grounded on Wednesday.

Even though some say it's been a massive overreaction by badly prepared safety regulators—one airline even claims the official scientific findings are simply wrong—hundreds of flights were canceled Tuesday as winds blew the cloud of ash from the Grimsvotn volcano over Scotland and other parts of Europe. Experts say

that particles in the ash could stall jet engines and sandblast planes' windows.

The only comfort for frustrated passengers and airlines is that officials in Iceland said the amount of ash being released by the volcano is decreasing, and officials don't expect the disruption to be as bad as last year, when millions were stranded after the eruption of Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull volcano.

Travelers trying to go to or leave Scotland have been hit hardest, but the problem also began to affect Germany, where weather officials said it would

not allow any takeoffs or landings at the northern Bremen and Hamburg airports early Wednesday due to increased levels of ash in the atmosphere.

Dozens of domestic and international flights were to be affected by the closure early Wednesday. Authorities said it may be necessary to halt all air traffic coming and going from Berlin's airports, as well as Hannover, depending on the winds.

In Sweden, 10 domestic flights were canceled Tuesday evening. The country's aviation officials say they expect medium concentrations of ash over

its western coast late Tuesday, including over its second-largest city Goteborg.

Although British authorities said concentrations of ash in the skies over Scotland were too high to fly through, Irish budget airline Ryanair challenged the results, saying it had sent its own airplane into Scottish airspace and found no ash in the atmosphere.

"All the data we are receiving confirms our forecasts, that there is high-density ash over Scotland," said Barry Grommett, spokesman for Britain's weather agency.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Oil under \$99 in Asia on fears of weak fuel demand

**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP)**—Oil prices fell to below \$99 a barrel Wednesday in Asia amid indications of weakening fuel demand in the U.S. Benchmark oil for July delivery fell 73 cents to \$98.86 a barrel at midday Kuala Lumpur time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract rose \$1.89 to settle at \$99.59 on Tuesday.

#### Sony reports another online security breach

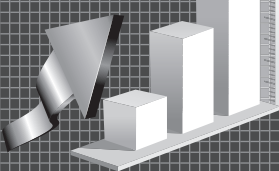
**TOKYO (AP)**—Sony has suffered another online security breach, this time for 2,000 customers of its Sony Ericsson joint venture in Canada, the latest in a series of hacker attacks against the electronics and entertainment company. Sony Corp. spokesman Atsuo Omagari said Wednesday that names, e-mail and encrypted passwords may have been sto-

len from the Sony Ericsson Canada website, but no credit card information was taken.

#### Japan exports drop 12.5 pct in April after tsunami

**TOKYO (AP)**—Japan's exports dropped in April, bearing the brunt of the March 11 earthquake and tsunami, which destroyed factories and caused massive production losses across the nation, the government said Wednesday. Exports fell 12.5 percent year-on-year—the biggest drop in 18 months—to 5.16 trillion yen (\$62.8 billion). Imports rose 8.9 percent to 5.62 trillion yen, resulting in a trade deficit for the first time in three months, the finance ministry said. "Exports fell sharply as Japanese manufacturers simply could not produce goods due to severe supply shortages following the earthquake," said Hiroshi Watanabe, an economist at the Daiwa Institute of Research.

### STOCK PORTFOLIO



### LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
12,356.20	1,316.28	2,746.16
-25.05	-1.09	-12.74
-0.20%	-0.08%	-0.46%

### EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms	Hong Kong Dollar	Philippine Peso
Australian Dollar	7.7765	43.3850
British Pound	45.2087	Singapore Dollar
Canadian Dollar	8,570.5	1.2473
Chinese Yuan	81.9533	South Korean Won
Euro	3.0514	1,093.413
	1.2541	Swiss Franc
		0.8796
		Taiwan Dollar
		28.8900
		Thailand Baht
		30.3850



# Nation

## Violent thunderstorms kill 7 in Oklahoma, Kansas



This photo provided by Shelby Barrow shows a tornado near Chickasha, Okla., Tuesday, May 24, 2011.

By KRISTI EATON  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**EL RENO, Okla.** (AP)—Violent thunderstorms roared across middle America on Tuesday, killing seven people in two states, with several tornadoes touching down in Oklahoma and high winds pounding rural Kansas.

The high-powered storms arrived as forecast, just two days after a massive tornado tore through the southwest Missouri town of Joplin and killed 122 people.

Several tornadoes struck Oklahoma City and its suburbs during rush hour, killing at least five people and injuring at least 60 others, including three children who were in critical condition, authorities said.

Cherokee Ballard, a spokeswoman for the state medical examiner, said four people died west of Oklahoma City in Canadian County, where a weather-monitoring site in El Reno recorded 151 mph winds. She did not have any immediate details about the deaths.

At Chickasha, 25 miles southwest of Oklahoma City, a 26-year-old woman died when a tornado hit a mobile home park where residents had been asked to evacuate their trailers, Assistant Police Chief Elip Moore said. He said a dozen people were injured and that hundreds were displaced when the storm splintered their homes.

In Kansas, police said two people died when high winds threw a tree into their van around 6 p.m. near the small town of St. John, about 100 miles west of Wichita. The highway was shut down because of storm damage.

More severe weather occurred after nightfall as the storms continued east, but none with the power of the daytime storms. Their path included Joplin, which is cleaning up from a Sunday storm that was the nation's eighth-deadliest twister among records dating to 1840.

"Unfortunately, this event will likely continue for some time," Oklahoma Gov. Mary Fallin said. "I am asking all Oklahomans to stay aware of

the weather and to take proper precautions to keep themselves out of harm's way."

The Storm Prediction Center had warned since the weekend that strong, long-lived tornadoes could hit Oklahoma and adjacent parts of Kansas and Texas. The storm that killed four west of Oklahoma City later moved to the capital's northern suburbs and on toward Stillwater—covering a distance of about 80 miles.

"We knew for the last two days that we had an opportunity for long-tracking tornadoes, and unfortunately that came true today," said Michelann Ooten, a spokeswoman for the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management.

Storms that formed near Chickasha even forced the staff of the Storm Prediction Center to take shelter at their Norman headquarters for a time Tuesday, spokeswoman Keli Tarp said.

The long tracks also gave Oklahomans plenty of time to seek shelter or run away - or in Lynn Hartman's case, both.

Hartman, 39, said that as

warning sirens sounded she huddled in the pantry of her Piedmont home with her two children and the family dog until her husband Mike arrived home from work.

"We're there just crying and praying," Hartman said, and her daughter, Sierra, 10, was saying repeatedly, "I just don't want to die."

The family then decided to flee their home as the storm approached, crossing the Oklahoma City metropolitan area to Shawnee. Once there, sirens sounded again for a storm approaching the Oklahoma City area from the south. The four drove around for three hours before returning to find their roof gone. The pantry was standing, but Hartman wasn't convinced the family would have survived the strong storm.

Chris Pyle was stunned as he pulled into the neighborhood northwest of Piedmont where he lived as a teenager. His parents' home was destroyed, but the house next door had only a few damaged shingles.

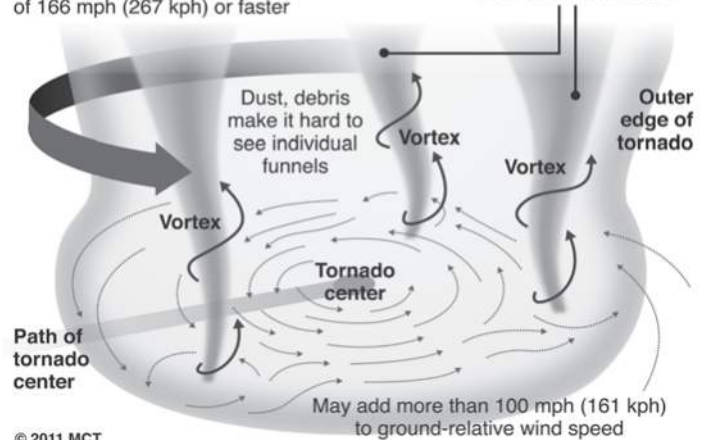
### Deadly storm

Tornados form when warm, moist air meets cool, dry air. The most violent ones often have multiple vortices, which form and die out as the tornado moves along.

#### Multivortex tornado

Most common in tornadoes with wind speeds of 166 mph (267 kph) or faster

Move around tornado center; usually last less than one minute each



© 2011 MCT  
Source: U.S. National Weather Service, USA Today

Graphic: Melina Yingling

## A race to find survivors before more storms arrive

**JOPLIN, Mo.** (AP)—Emergency crews drilled through concrete at a ruined Home Depot, making peepholes in the rubble in hopes of finding lost shoppers and employees. A dog clambered through the shattered remains of a house, sniffing for any sign of the woman and infant who lived there.

Across devastated Joplin, searchers moved from one enormous debris pile to another Tuesday, racing to respond to any report of a possible survivor.

The human toll rose to at least 122 dead and 750 people hurt. But just nine had been pulled alive from the aftermath. Searchers fought the clock because anybody still alive after the deadliest single tornado in 60 years was losing precious strength two days after the disaster. And another round of storms was closing in.

For Milissa Burns, hope was fading that her 16-month-old grandson, whose parents were both hospitalized after the tornado hit their home, would be found.

She showed up Tuesday at a demolished dental office near the child's home to watch a search team. At one point, a dog identified possible human remains, prompting eight searchers to dig frantically, but they came away with nothing.

Burns was weary but composed. Her daughter—the boy's aunt—sobbed next to her.

"We've already checked out the morgue," Burns said. "I've called 911 a million times. I've done everything I can do. He was so light and little. He could be anywhere."

Also Tuesday, the National Weather Service announced that the twister that crippled Joplin was an EF-5, the strongest rating assigned to tornadoes, with winds of more than 200 mph. Scientists said it appeared to be a rare "multivortex" tornado, with two or more small and intense centers of rotation orbiting the larger funnel.

It was the deadliest single twister since the weather service began keeping official records in 1950 and the eighth-deadliest in U.S. history.

A short time later, severe thunderstorms spawned a tornado that killed two people during the evening rush hour in suburban Oklahoma City.

Another top job was testing the city's tornado sirens to make sure they were operable ahead of another round of potentially violent weather starting Tuesday evening and expected to last into Wednesday in some places. Emergency officials warned jittery residents well in advance of the test.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Calif. family of 4 dead in apparent murder-suicide

**SAN DIEGO** (AP)—A family of four that included a 9-year-old girl and a high school senior was found dead Tuesday in a swimming pool and bathtub at their San Diego home, in what police are calling an apparent triple murder-suicide. The discovery stunned friends and neighbors in the quiet cul-de-sac,

who described the four as a hard-working couple, a teenage daughter who was excited for prom and a younger girl who made friends easily. San Diego police Lt. Ernie Herbert said the suspect was one of the four family members, but he declined to say which one. He said investigators found evidence of a murder-suicide after combing the home, but they were still working to determine a motive

and were unsure exactly how the victims died.

#### Giffords returns to rehab hospital after surgery

**TUCSON, Ariz.** (AP)—U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Giffords has been transferred back to her rehabilitation hospital in Houston after recovering from last week's surgery at a nearby hospital. The

40-year-old Arizona Democrat had been recuperating at Memorial Hermann-Texas Medical Center since last Wednesday's surgery to implant a synthetic replacement for a portion of her skull. Doctors also gave Giffords a permanent shunt to relieve fluid buildup in her brain. Part of Giffords' skull was removed Jan. 8, the same day she was shot in the head in a shooting in Tucson that left six dead and 12

others wounded.

#### Casey Anthony defense: Caylee drowned in pool

**ORLANDO, Fla.** (AP)—Prosecutors and a defense attorney for a Florida mother charged in the death of her 2-year-old daughter each presented new, vastly different theories of how the little girl died as the trial for Casey Anthony began Tuesday.

For the first time, prosecutors said Caylee Anthony died from three pieces of duct tape being placed over her mouth and nose while a defense attorney for the mother claimed the toddler drowned in the family pool and the little girl's grandfather helped cover up the accident. Casey Anthony, 25, is charged with first-degree murder. If convicted, she could be sentenced to death.



# Asia

## PH defense chief says military too weak

**MANILA, Philippines (AP)**—The Philippine military, one of Asia's weakest, is too weak to stop foreign intrusions in areas such as disputed territories in the South China Sea, and the only recourse is diplomatic protests, the defense secretary said Tuesday.

A Philippine newspaper reported Tuesday that the Chinese military has erected barracks, outposts and garrisons with helicopter landing pads and satellite transmission facilities in areas close to a Philippine-

claimed island in the Spratly Islands, where recent territorial spats have renewed tension.

Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin said the Chinese structures were built several years ago but that even today, the Philippine military would be helpless in stopping such expansion in the contested region.

"Until such time that we can upgrade our capability, we can't do anything but protest and protest," Gazmin told reporters.

China, the Philippines and four other Asian nations and

territories claim the potentially oil-rich islands, which straddle busy shipping lanes.

Philippine authorities detected the presence of a submarine in the Sulu Sea off southern Jolo island in March. By the time the military reached the area to check, the unidentified submarine was gone, Gazmin said.

"It was an intrusion," he told The Associated Press. "But again, what can we do?"

Gazmin said large amounts of money are needed to modernize the 129,000-strong

## NKorea's Kim said to arrive in Beijing to meet Hu

**BEIJING (AP)**—North Korean leader Kim Jong Il reportedly arrived in Beijing on Wednesday for a meeting with Chinese President Hu Jintao that would mark the climax of his visit to his country's most important ally.

The reclusive Kim arrived in Beijing at 9 a.m. (0100 GMT) aboard his personal train and went directly to the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, South Korea's Yonhap News agency said.

The vast, high-security compound in the city's west is where Kim stayed on his last visit to Beijing in August. Yonhap and other South Korean media said Kim's meeting with Hu was most likely to take place Wednesday afternoon.

Yonhap did not cite sources in the report. The Chinese state guesthouse would not comment and the North Korean Embassy said it had no information. China's Foreign Ministry has refused to confirm Kim's presence in China, although Premier Wen Jiabao has said China invited him to study and hopefully adopt Beijing's market-oriented reforms.

Previous reform attempts have been abandoned by North Korea and it's far from clear how far the ailing 69-year-old Kim—or his anointed successor, son Kim Jong Un—would be willing to go.

Kim crossed into China on Friday night for his third trip to the country in just over a year, underscoring China's crucial importance to the North as a source of diplomatic support and economic assistance. He reportedly visited sites and met with officials in economically thriving Jiangsu province region before heading north on Tuesday.

Beijing is believed to have the most influence over North Korea of any foreign power and is desperate to prevent a collapse of the hardline communist regime that could unleash political chaos and economic disintegration along its border.

Isolated and impoverished North Korea's exchanges with China have grown even more important since South Korea's conservative government halted unconditional food and fer-

tilizer shipments in early 2008 and suspended almost all trade with the North. The U.N. and others have also enacted sanctions to punish the country for violating nuclear agreements.

Kim's trip takes place as an American delegation—led by Robert King, U.S. special envoy for North Korean human rights issues—is visiting North Korea to verify food supply surveys conducted by the United Nations and U.S.-based charities and see if there are ways to monitor aid distribution.

The last U.S. food shipments were stopped in 2009 after food monitors were expelled.

The United Nations also said Tuesday it would soon decide whether to release emergency humanitarian funds for the North. The U.N. World Food Program launched a \$200 million dollar international appeal late last month after it concluded that more than 6 million of North Korea's 23 million people were in urgent need of aid. It said the North's public distribution system would run out of food between May and July.



Philippine President Benigno Aquino III, right, shakes hands with Chinese Defense Minister Liang Guanglie during their meeting at the Presidential Malacanang palace in Manila, Philippines on Monday May 23, 2011.

military so that it would be capable of guarding the archipelago's coastline, one of the world's longest.

Many of the navy's ships have "succumbed to the punishment of wear and tear," with malfunctioning ones sidelined and never replaced. The few remaining ships are far below modern naval standards and are ready "to lie on their keels in the graveyard," he said.

"This is truly deplorable but plain reality," Gazmin said in a speech on the navy's founding anniversary.

Gazmin announced the only

major naval acquisition in recent years, a refurbished patrol ship purchased from the United States. Military chief of staff Gen. Eduardo Oban said the vessel will be deployed near the Spratlys.

The Philippine air force has proposed the acquisition of 16 combat helicopters, trainer jets and long-range patrol aircraft, along with an air defense and surveillance radar system from 2012 to 2016, air force chief Lt. Gen. Oscar Rabena said.

The modest wish list can only come true if the economy improves enough to cover the

\$325 million (14 billion peso) price tag, he said.

Despite scarce weapons, planes and aging warships, Filipino troops are fighting long-ranging Muslim and communist insurgencies, Gazmin said, praising them for their "profound patriotic fervor."

U.S. troops have been providing combat training, weapons and intelligence to Filipino soldiers battling al-Qaida-linked militants in the south, but they are forbidden from local combat and face many restrictions under an existing accord, he said.

## Suicide bomb at Pakistani police building kills 2

**PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)**—A suicide car bomber struck a police building in Pakistan's main northwest city Wednesday, officials said, killing two police officers and wounding at least 22 other people in the latest violence to roil the country since the U.S. raid that killed Osama bin Laden.

Though no group immediately claimed responsibility for the early morning strike in Peshawar, it added to growing fears of a long, bloody summer as Pakistani Taliban and other al-Qaida affiliated groups carry out threats to avenge the al-Qaida chief's slaying.

Already this month, the Pakistani Taliban have claimed they carried out three revenge attacks, including a deadly 18-hour siege of a naval base.

The bomber's target Wednesday appeared to be a building belonging to the police's criminal investigation department, but the station was located in an army cantonment and military facilities also are nearby, said Liaquat Ali Khan, a senior po-

lice official in Peshawar.

Investigators with the counter-terrorism unit of the police were stationed at the center, said Fayaz Khan Toru, the top police official in northwestern Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province.

Police officer Mohammad Zahid was in the basement of the building when the bomb went off.

"I felt like the sky fell on me," Zahid said in the hospital, where he was being treated for multiple injuries. "The explosion jammed the door of my room in the basement, but there was a small hole in the wall so I crawled through that. When I got outside, there was lots of dust and smoke."

At least two police officers died, and of the 22 wounded, four were in serious condition, officials said. A handful of other people were believed missing, possibly in the rubble of the collapsed building. Military forces quickly sealed off much of the cantonment as machines were brought in to sift through the facility's wreckage.

"Our determination is much

higher than before, and we will fight till the defeat of these terrorists," said Bashir Bilour, a senior official with the provincial government.

Bin Laden was killed on May 2 by a team of U.S. Navy SEALs in the army town of Abbottabad, elsewhere in Pakistan's northwest and roughly a mile away from Pakistan's premier military academy. Since the raid, U.S.-Pakistan relations have sunk to new lows. Pakistani leaders insist they had no idea the al-Qaida leader had been living, apparently for five years, in the large, three-story house in Abbottabad. And they are furious that the U.S. raided the house without telling them in advance.

The Pakistani Taliban are exploiting the tense relations by promising to attack both Western and Pakistani targets to avenge bin Laden's death. The militant group has long despised the Pakistani government and army for their alliance with the U.S., a sentiment shared by many ordinary Pakistanis.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Tibetans want ceremonial role for Dalai Lama

**DHARMSALA, India (AP)**—Tibetan exiles in India planned Tuesday to urge the Dalai Lama to stay on as the ceremonial head of state of their government-in-exile even though he has turned political authority over to an elected leader. The Tibetan parliament is discussing amendments to its constitution, which are required after the 75-year-old spiritual leader announced that he wanted to end his political role. The deliberations included more than 400 exiles and lasted four days in the northern Indian hill town of Dharmasala, the seat of the Tibetan government-in-exile.

#### India, US to discuss counterterrorism

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—U.S. Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano has begun a four-day visit to India by paying tribute to victims of the 2008 Mumbai terror attack. Napolitano laid a wreath and observed a brief silence on Tuesday at a memorial to 16 policemen who were killed during the three-day siege of India's financial capital. Napolitano will also visit New Delhi to launch an India-U.S. security dialogue to increase coopera-

tion in counterterrorism, intelligence sharing and cybersecurity. A total of 166 people were killed when 10 young Pakistanis attacked two luxury hotels, a Jewish center and a busy train station in Mumbai in November 2008. India blamed the attacks on Pakistan-based militant groups.

#### Countries adopt pledge to protect elephants

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—Representatives of eight countries with large wild elephant populations pledged Tuesday to eradicate poaching of the animals and smuggling of ivory to ensure their survival for future generations. The environment ministers and officials from Asia and Africa also urged all 50 nations with significant numbers of elephants to meet in two years to adopt a shared vision for promoting their conservation and welfare. Delegates at Tuesday's "Elephant 8 Ministerial Meet" underscored threats to elephant habitats from mining, deforestation and land development. Although the threat to elephants is not as dramatic as that facing tigers, the steady decline of their population is worrying, Indian Environment Minister Jairam Ramesh said.



## World

# Yemen officials: 38 killed in capital fighting

**SANAA, Yemen (AP)**—Fighters from Yemen's powerful tribes fired on government buildings Tuesday, prompting soldiers to respond with intense shelling in street battles that left at least 38 dead as the uprising against President Ali Abdullah Saleh threatened to become a militia-led revolt.

Medical officials said 24 tribesmen were killed in the fiercest fighting on Sanaa's streets in years. Government officials said 14 soldiers were killed and 20 were missing as the situation deteriorated following the collapse of an Arab mediation effort to get Saleh to step down.

As the battles developed, the heart of Yemen's capital was turned into a no man's land with heavy gunfire, mortar rounds and artillery fire from government forces.

As the death toll mounted, Saleh called for a cease-fire. A statement from his office called on both sides to lay down their arms and asked the tribesmen to withdraw from government buildings they seized.

Both sides traded blame for triggering the latest violence, further deepening the rifts and suggesting Yemen could be stumbling toward a potentially

## The changing state of the Middle East

President Barack Obama's May 19 speech came during a time of widespread transition in the Middle East and North Africa as old-line autocratic rulers throughout the region face demands for democratic reforms.

### Palestinian territories

Population 4.2 million

**Leadership** West Bank controlled by Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas' Fatah party; Gaza Strip controlled by Hamas

**U.S. policy** Obama declared his support for a Palestinian state based on Israel's pre-1967 Middle East war boundaries, with mutually agreed land swaps, in the hope of jump-starting stalled Mideast peace talks



### Libya

Population 6.6 million

**Leadership** Moammar Gadhafi (since 1969)

**U.S. policy** After launching the military campaign in defense of anti-Gadhafi rebels, the U.S. now plays a supporting role to NATO; administration has called for Gadhafi's removal and has said the U.S. became involved in the conflict to prevent a massacre

Source: CIA World Factbook, Reuters, Center for Middle East Peace, ESRI, MCT Photo Service



### Egypt

Population 82.1 million

**Leadership** Under military control since the February resignation of President Hosni Mubarak

**U.S. policy** Obama administration hopes it can become a model for the region of a nation's relatively peaceful transformation to democracy; on May 19, Barack Obama announced the U.S. would forgive \$1 billion in

Graphic: Adam Zoll, Phil Geib, Chicago Tribune

### Syria

Population 22.5 million

**Leadership** President Bashar Assad (since 2000)

**U.S. policy** In response to the government's killing of hundreds of pro-democracy protesters during the past several weeks, the White House on May 18 announced sanctions against Assad and his top advisers



### Bahrain

Population 1.2 million

**Leadership** King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa (since 1999)

**U.S. policy** Obama administration has come under criticism for not taking a harder line against this U.S. ally, another autocratic regime that has used deadly force to crack down on pro-democracy protesters



### Yemen

Population 22.1 million

**Leadership** President Ali Abdullah Saleh (since 1990)

**U.S. policy** Has called on Saleh to make good on his promise to step down amid months of deadly protests; Yemen is a key U.S. ally in the fight against terrorism and home to one of al-Qaida's most active branches



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essential allies for any government to survive. Al-Ahmar and others had abandoned Saleh two months ago even though he is, too, a member of the Hashid clan. But the tribes decided to keep their weapons in check even as government forces fired on street demonstrations in attacks that have claimed more than 150 lives.

Now, however, the battles that began Monday may significantly increase pressure on Saleh's regime—either by encouraging more clan leaders to join the fight or pushing more military officials to abandon the government.

"The defection of Sheik al-Ahmar was a very harsh blow because any ruler in Yemen survives only through tribal support," said Faris al-Saqqaf, a political analyst at the independent Future Research Center in Yemen's capital, Sanaa. "Saleh is slapping al-Ahmar in the face just as al-Ahmar slapped him in the face and he wants revenge."

Tuesday's clashes broke out after government forces tried to storm al-Ahmar's compound in Sanaa's Hassaba district, an area that includes government ministries and the headquarters of Saleh's ruling party. The district is on the road to Sanaa's airport.

bors to negotiate his exit.

But the decision by al-Ahmar's tribe and others to take up arms sharply alters the balance.

Yemen's tribes are considered

## US reaches out to rebels amid withering airstrikes

**TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)**—The Obama administration reached out Tuesday to the Libyan rebels and said Moammar Gadhafi would "inevitably" be forced from power as the U.S.-backed NATO coalition launched a withering bombardment on the Libyan leader's stronghold of Tripoli.

The NATO airstrikes struck in rapid succession shortly after midnight, setting off more than 20 explosions in the most intensive bombardment yet of the Libyan capital. Plumes of acrid-smelling smoke rose from an area around Gadhafi's sprawling Bab al-Aziziya compound in central Tripoli.

And late Tuesday, NATO hit Tripoli again, aiming at least six airstrikes at the same targets and

another farther away. Smoke rose from the area near Gadhafi's compound for the second night in a row. There were no immediate reports of casualties.

A U.S. official warned the Libyan ruler that the pace of the attacks will intensify. Deputy National Security Adviser Ben Rhodes said, "I think we want to underscore to Gadhafi that the foot is not going to come off the gas pedal," adding, "leaving is in his best interests and the best interest of the Libyan people."

With its invitation, the U.S. administration bolstered the standing of the rebel National Transitional Council, calling it a "legitimate and representative and credible" body and extending an invitation Tuesday for

it to set up a representative office in Washington—though the overture stopped short of formal U.S. recognition.

Praising the rebel leadership, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said, "The opposition has organized a legitimate and credible interim council that is committed to democratic principles, their military forces are improving and when Gadhafi inevitably leaves, a new Libya stands ready to move forward," she said.

The international community has stepped up both the air campaign and diplomatic efforts against the regime in a bid to break a virtual stalemate between the rebels in the east and Gadhafi, who maintains a stran-

glehold on most of the west.

NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen told journalists traveling with him Tuesday in Herat, Afghanistan, that he hopes a "solution" will soon come to end the fighting in Libya.

"We are trying to protect the citizens and the population against attacks, and to that end, we have taken out a significant amount of Gadhafi's military capacity," Fogh Rasmussen said. "I feel confident that this combination ... of high military pressure and real political pressure will eventually lead to the collapse of the regime."

Government spokesman Moussa Ibrahim said at least three people were killed and

dozens wounded in the NATO strikes that targeted what he said were buildings used by volunteer units of the Libyan army.

NATO said in a statement the precision-guided strikes hit a vehicle storage facility that had been used in "attacks on civilians." It was not immediately clear if the facility was the only target hit in the barrage. Gadhafi's Bab al-Aziziya compound, which includes a

number of military facilities, has been pounded repeatedly by NATO strikes.

"We thought it was the day of judgment," said 45-year-old Fathallah Salem, who had rushed his 75-year-old mother to the hospital after she suffered shock. He said his home trembled and the youngest of his seven children screamed in terror at the sound of the rolling blasts.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Sudan: 197 troops killed, missing in Abyei attack

**JUBA, Sudan (AP)**—Seventy northern Sudanese troops were killed and more than 120 are missing from an attack last week by southern Sudanese forces near the disputed region of Abyei, a Sudanese diplomat said Tuesday, describing a toll that if verified marks one of the bloodiest clashes since the end of Sudan's civil war. A U.N. spokesman said he believed the casualty numbers were much smaller. The south voted to secede from Sudan, Africa's largest country, this year but the future of the 4,000-square-mile (10,500-square-kilometer) Abyei region, which lies near the north-south border, was left in doubt. The fighting that began last Thursday threatens to unravel a 2005 peace deal and re-ignite a civil war that left more than 2 million people dead.

#### Report: Both committed atrocities in Ivory Coast

**ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP)**—Only days after Ivory Coast's president was inaugurated, ending a monthslong power struggle with the outgoing leader who refused to leave office, a rights group said in a new report that supporters of both men killed hundreds of civilians and committed atrocities in the battle for power. In a report released Wednesday from Paris, Amnesty International said armed men fighting for both President Alassane Ouattara and ousted strongman Laurent Gbagbo carried out crimes against civilians. The report said both sides targeted their victims by their political affiliation, ethnicities or names. Other rights groups and the United Nations have also said both sides carried out massacres in the five-month political standoff.

## Egypt's Mubarak to be tried over protester deaths

**CAIRO (AP)**—Egypt's prosecutor general ordered Tuesday former President Hosni Mubarak put on trial on charges of corruption and conspiring in the deadly shootings of protesters during the uprising that ousted him, a stunning step against a leader whose power was nearly unquestioned for three decades.

The announcement that Mubarak would face a criminal court grants a major demand of Egyptians who have threatened a second revolution amid growing worries about the slow pace of change under

the country's new military rulers. The charges could carry the death sentence, said the prosecutor-general spokesman Adel el-Said.

It would be the first time an Arab leader is sent to trial solely by his own people in modern history. Iraq's leader Saddam Hussein was toppled during the U.S. invasion in 2003 and sentenced three years later to death for killing 140 Shiites.

"It is the first time that a living president is going to face victims of his abuse before an ordinary court in the region," said Hossam Bahgat, a promi-

nent human rights activist. "It is precisely because of this unique and unprecedented nature that we need for this trial to be as credible as possible."

Mubarak was forced to step down after an 18-day popular uprising that was met with a heavy security crackdown. A government fact-finding mission said at least 846 people were killed and a thousands injured.

Mubarak transferred power to a military council on Feb. 11, which promised to guide Egypt's democratic transformation to a civilian rule.

But the prosecution of the

83-year old Mubarak remained a sore point under the new leadership. Protesters pressed demands that Mubarak face justice, taking to the streets a number of times and criticizing the military for stalling.

The statement from prosecutor-general Mahmoud Abdel-Meguid, who also served under Mubarak, came ahead of a planned Friday protest that was to have focused on calls for Mubarak be put on trial and for remnants of his regime to be uprooted. Flyers promoting the protest also call for an end to military trials for civilians.



# Focus

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)**—It was the catastrophe that seemed to crush a way of life, an oil rig exploding in the darkness and plunging the Gulf Coast and its people into months of chaos.

One year after the nation's worst offshore oil spill began, solemn ceremonies will mark the disaster Wednesday and underscore the delicate healing that is only now taking shape. Oil still occasionally rolls up on beaches in the form of tar balls, and fishermen face an uncertain future.

But traffic jams on the narrow coastal roads of Alabama, crowded seafood restaurants in Florida and families vacationing along the Louisiana coast attest to the fact that familiar routines are returning, albeit slowly.

"We used to fuss about that," said Ike Williams, referring to the heavy traffic headed for the water in Gulf Shores, Ala., where he rents chairs and umbrellas to beachgoers. "But it was such a welcome sight."

Although life is getting back to normal, many questions linger: Will the fishing industry recover? Will the environment bounce back completely? Will an oil-hungry public ever accept more deep-water drilling?

"It seems like it is all gone," said Tyler Priest, an oil historian at the University of Houston. "People have turned their attention elsewhere. But it will play out like Exxon Valdez did. There will be 20 years of litigation."

On Tuesday, the federal government reopened the last of the waters that were closed last year after the massive spill, about 1,040 square miles near the sunken rig. And fresh revelations from a BP engineer's email exchanges with his wife highlighted the missteps made on the ill-fated rig before the explosion.

In the months since the April 20, 2010, blast aboard the Deepwater Horizon, an administrator has handed out \$3.8 billion from a \$20 billion claims fund set up by BP. The number of cleanup workers went from 48,000 at the height of the spill to 2,000 today.

Most scientists agree the effects "were not as severe as many had predicted," said Christopher D'Elia, dean at the School of the Coast and Environment at Louisiana State University. "People had said this was an ecological Armageddon, and that did not come to pass."

Still, biologists are concerned about the spill's long-term impact on marine life.

"There are these cascading effects," D'Elia said. "It could be accumulation of toxins in the food chain, or changes in the food web. Some species might dominate."

Meanwhile, accumulated oil is believed to lie on the bottom of the Gulf, and it still shows up as a thick, gooey black crust



In this two picture combo, nesting terns and pelicans are seen on Cat Island on May 22, 2010, left, as oil from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill impacts the shore of an island in Barataria Bay, just inside the coast of Louisiana. The island is home to hundreds of brown pelican nests as well as terns, gulls and roseate spoonbills. The second photo taken on April 8, 2011, near the same location shows the shoreline heavily eroded, and the lush marsh grass and mangrove trees mostly dead or dying. Biologists from the Louisiana Department of Fish and Wildlife say this is largely because the island was completely overwashed by the oil, and poorly maintained oil booms contributed to the damage as well.

## A year after spill, Gulf Coast is healing, hurting

along miles of Louisiana's marshy shoreline. Scientists have begun to notice that the land in many places is eroding.

For example, on Cat Island, a patch of land where pelicans and reddish egrets nest among the black mangroves, Associated Press photographs taken a year ago and compared to those taken recently show visible loss of land and a lack of vegetation.

"Last year, those mangroves were healthy, dark green. This year they're not," said Todd Baker, a biologist with the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Land is eroding on sites where the oil has killed vegetation.

Confidence in Louisiana's seafood is eroding, too.

"Where I'm fishing it all looks pretty much the same," said Glen Swift, a 62-year-old fisherman in Buras. He's catching catfish and gar in the lower Mississippi River again. That's not the problem.

"I can't sell my fish," he said. "The market's no good."

But the BP spill has faded from the headlines, overtaken by the tsunami and nuclear disaster in Japan, unrest in the Middle East and political clashes in Washington.

"Nationally, BP seems like a dim and distant memory," said Douglas Brinkley, a Rice University historian. But the accident will have long-lasting influence on environmental history, he said.

A presidential commission and an internal BP report concluded that the disaster was caused by a cascade of technical and managerial failures, in-

cluding a faulty cement job. A testing firm hired by the government concluded that the key device used for preventing blowouts failed because of a design problem that prevented it from cutting through pipe.

Fresh revelations from a BP drilling engineer who worked on the blown-out well shed some new light on the jitters and missteps overtaking the ill-fated facility in the weeks

"I can't take it, so I am staying away from the issues today," he wrote.

In a performance review a few weeks earlier, Morel had been told to "be aware of cynicism and criticism of company policies, actions, processes, etc. Don't be a victim."

Morel's wife, who also worked for BP, told him he was smart not to challenge some decisions. "They can live with the

nation forever," Brinkley said.

The BP gusher, caught by the "spillcams" a mile under the sea and delivered nightly to American living rooms, made oil, and its nasty nature, very real.

"It was a huge wake-up call for other treasured landscapes not to become a Gulf of Mexico," Brinkley said. "So the true historical impact may be in places like arctic Alaska, the Chesapeake, offshore Washington, places that have been contemplating offshore drilling."

Added Priest: "It made oil visible to Americans. We know we consume oil. In our subconscious, we know that is what fuels our economy and our society. But we never see it."

For 85 days—from the time the Macondo well began leaking until it was finally capped after a series of failed attempts—Americans got a crash course in deep-water drilling: They learned about blowout preventers, well casings, top kills and top hats, toolpushers and the difference between an oil platform and an oil rig. They learned about where oil comes from and how toxic, or relatively benign, it can be.

In that time, 206 million gallons of oil—19 times more than the Exxon Valdez spilled, or enough to fill three-quarters of the Empire State Building—spewed from the well. In response, the nation commandeered the largest offshore fleet of vessels since D-Day, and BP spent billions of dollars to clean up the mess and save itself from collapse.

The blast also killed 11 rig workers, including Gordon

Jones, an engineer killed when the rig exploded. Jones left behind a 2-year-old son and a baby he never met.

"I know other people have experienced losses like this. The difference I guess is that we're reliving it essentially every day," said Jones' brother, Chris. "I don't think I've picked up the newspaper in the last year where there hasn't been an article about one part of this disaster."

For the most part, the damage was eventually contained.

"If you come out and see the progress, you'd think so too," said Mike Brewer, a Plaquemines Parish oil spill response supervisor, reached Tuesday by telephone as he worked in Bay Jimmy, the hardest hit marsh area where oil remains in a thick crust along the marsh edge.

Brewer, who has spent 25 years cleaning up spills in Louisiana, said this spill was the Big One that he always feared. But was it the last spill ever?

"You expect sooner or later it will happen. And sooner or later, I believe it will happen again," he said. "You need the industry to continue to produce, to continue to drill, and you just need more cautionary measures. You just can't cut corners."

Wednesday also marks the final day to file some legal claims against rig owner Transocean Ltd., which is the focus of a trial next year to determine the company's liability for the disaster.

For now, the fishing communities of the Gulf Coast are praying for a good spawning season and a good catch—exactly as they had hoped a year ago before the Deepwater Horizon blew up.

Swift, the catfisherman, will be putting out nets when the anniversary dawns in the hope of supplying some fish for the local Cambodian-Americans, who are celebrating their New Year.

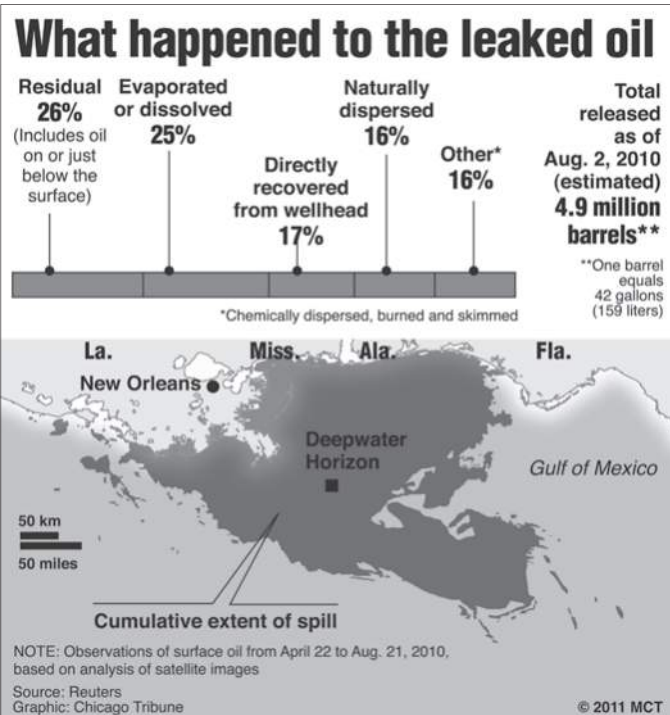
He said fishermen are getting by, thanks in large part to money from BP, which has helped assuage the pain of the spill, allowing poor and often homeless fishermen to buy trailers, boats and other gear.

"I made the most I've ever made. And I'm sure there were a lot of others the same," Swift said. "I had to pay \$10,000 in tax."

With the \$65,000 he received last year—working on the cleanup for BP and getting \$12,000 in compensation for the loss of his livelihood—he bought a boat, a 21-footer, and two motors.

Will Americans get over the image of that BP gusher fouling the Gulf? Swift wonders.

"A lot of people think it's a dirty place," he said. "The oil has given it a bad name. I was at one of these seafood chains, and they advertised their shrimp as being fresh and 'Pacific.'"



before the explosion.

Brian Morel first gained national attention when he referred to the Macondo as the "nightmare well" in an email to a colleague revealed by lawmakers last summer. Last week, the AP obtained additional email exchanges between Morel and his wife, including one in which he said his team at the company was "out of control."

consequences if they are poor," she said.

The Deepwater Horizon was different from the two other major offshore spills in American history—the Santa Barbara blowout in 1969 that led to the creation of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Exxon Valdez. But BP's disaster was a "seminal moment ... seared on the American imagi-



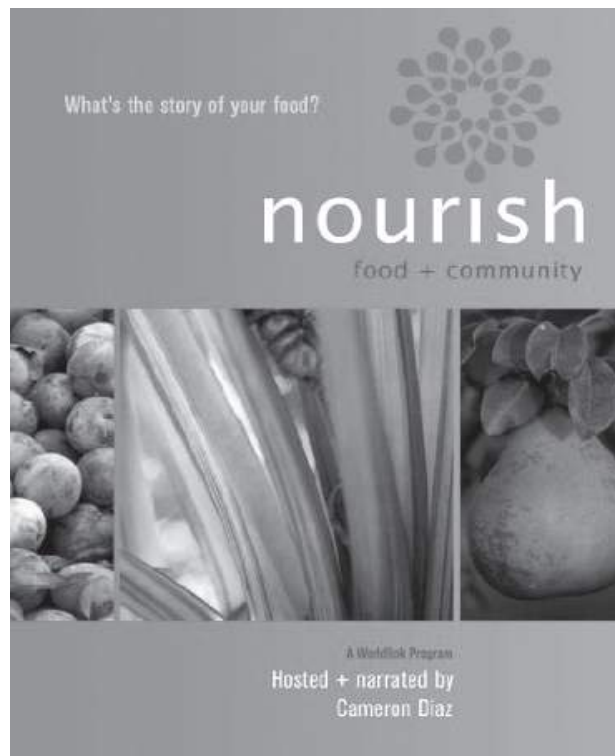
# Environment

## Meet the farmers behind your food at next First Friday Films

Discover the story behind your local produce at the next First Friday Films. Come see *Nourish, Food + Community* 6:30pm at the American Memorial Park.

Meet some local farmers and hear from the Saipan Sabalu Farmers Market Association, including member and farmer Asap Ogumoro. Following the movie, enjoy a tasty food demonstration using local produce from NMC CREES.

Have you ever wondered where your food came from? Was it produced locally or hundreds of miles away and shipped to your hometown? *Nourish* is a film celebrating fresh and wholesome food that's both good for you and the community. With interviews from bestselling author Michael Pollan, sustainable food advocate Anna Lappe, chef and author Bryan Terry, and Dr. Nadine Burke, the film delves into how the choices we make affect our sustain-



able food supply. From the seed to your table, see how food connects every individual on earth.

First Friday Films is a monthly film series brought to you through a partnership with the National Park Service, Division of Environmental Quality, with generous support from community groups such as the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance.

The Pacific Historic Parks (formerly the Arizona Memorial Museum Association) Bookstore, located inside the visitor's center, will be open until 8:30pm. All proceeds go to community education programs.

For planning purposes, the movie runs about 30 minutes long. As always, First Friday Films is free and open to the public. Find more information about the film at [www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com](http://www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com). Subscribe to the blog for regular updates on upcoming events. (PR)

### EPA SUN SAFETY TIPS

## This Friday is 'Don't Fry Day'



The Friday before Memorial Day is "Don't Fry Day," a time to remind people at the start of summer about the dangers from exposure to the sun's harmful rays. Melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer, is on the rise in America and is the most common cancer among young adults aged 25-29. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's SunWise program and the National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention have partnered to provide simple tips on protecting yourself that could save lives.

"Many people still do not realize that unprotected sun exposure can lead to skin cancer and other health problems," said Gina McCarthy, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Air and Radiation. "Simple steps such as using sunscreen, putting on sunglasses or wearing a hat can protect us and our families, while still enjoying the great outdoors."

One American dies from skin cancer every hour. It is the most common type of cancer in the United States, where skin cancer affects more than two million people

### ON THE NET

More information on "Don't Fry Day" and additional sun safety resources:  
<http://www.epa.gov/sunwise/dfd.html>

each year, outnumbering the cases of breast, prostate, lung and colon cancers combined. One in five Americans will develop the disease in their lifetime. Over exposure to ultraviolet, or UV, radiation from the sun is the main cause of skin cancer.

Although skin cancer risk factors are always present even during the winter, the dangers are greater during the summer months, when the days are longer and more people are outside for longer periods of time. As millions of Americans kick off the summer season this Memorial Day weekend by enjoying the great outdoors, EPA encourages families to learn about sun-safe practices and to reduce overexposure to UV.

For "Don't Fry Day," which falls on May 27 this year, EPA encourages Americans to take these few, easy precautions when they are outside:

- **'Slip, Slop, Slap, Wrap.'** Slip on a shirt. Slop on SPF 15+ sunscreen. Slap on a hat, and wrap on sunglasses to protect your body from overexposure to the sun

- **Seek shade.** Find shade during the sun's peak hours between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. to reduce the risk of too much sun exposure

- **Check the UV Index.** When planning outdoor activities check the UV Index to identify the times that pose the greatest risk for overexposure to the sun

EPA's SunWise program is the nation's largest environmental and health education program designed to encourage kids and their caregivers to practice safe sun habits. (EPA)

## EPA offers energy tips on summer cooling to help save money, reduce pollution

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Star program issued yesterday its annual list of ideas to help the public cut cooling costs, protect their health and stay comfortable at home.

The average home spends almost 20 percent of its utility bill on cooling. Increased energy production to run cooling systems not only raises costs, it also can contribute to pollution that adversely affects the quality of the air we breathe. Here are seven simple things that can be done to help protect your wallet and the environment:

Change to more efficient light bulbs. Change out incandescent light bulbs with more energy-efficient lighting choices. Energy Star qualified lighting not only uses less energy, but also produces approximately 75 percent less heat than incandescent lighting, so cooling bills will be reduced, too.

Find the best thermostat settings. If you have a programmable ther-

mostat, program it to work around your family's summer schedule—set it a few degrees higher (such as 78 degrees) when no one is home, so your cooling system isn't cooling an empty house.

Use ceiling fans optimally. Run your ceiling fan to create a cool breeze. If you raise your thermostat by only two degrees and use your ceiling fan, you can lower cooling costs by up to 14 percent. Remember that ceiling fans cool you, not the room, so when you leave the room make sure to turn off the fan.

Maximize shade. Pull the curtains and shades closed before you leave your home to keep the sun's rays from overheating the interior of your home. If you can, move container trees and plants in front of sun-exposed windows to serve as shade.

Reduce oven time. Use a microwave instead of an oven to cook, when you can. Ovens take longer to cook food and can make your house warmer, requiring your AC system to turn on to keep the house at a comfortable temperature.

Check air conditioner filters. Check your cooling system's air filter every month. If the filter looks dirty, change it. A good rule is to change

the filter at least every three months. A dirty filter will slow air flow and make the system work harder to keep you cool—wasting energy. Also, remember to have your system serviced annually to ensure it's running at optimum efficiency for money and energy savings.

Plug duct system leaks. As much as 20 percent of the air moving through your home's duct system is lost due

to leaks and poor connections. Seal duct work using mastic sealant or metal tape and insulate all the ducts that you can access (such as those in attics, crawlspaces, unfinished basements, and garages). Also, make sure that connections at vents and registers are well-sealed where they meet floors, walls, and ceilings. These are common locations to find leaks and disconnected ductwork.

Energy Star was started by EPA in 1992 as a market-based partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency. Today, the Energy Star label can be found on more than 60 different kinds of products, as well as new homes and commercial and industrial buildings that meet strict energy-efficient specifications set by the EPA. Last year alone, Americans, with the help of Energy Star, saved approximately \$18 billion on their energy bills while preventing greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to the annual emission of 33 million vehicles. (EPA)

### ON THE NET

- Ways to cut energy costs:  
<http://www.energystar.gov/cooltips>
- "Energy Stars Across America":  
<http://www.energystar.gov/starsmap>

### BOOK DONATION

The Friends of the Mariana Trench Monument recently donated 100 copies of *Our Northern Islands* to three different public schools on Saipan. This photo shows Friends of the Mariana Trench Monument director Angelo Villagomez, left, turning over copies of the book to Yvonne Pangelinan, principal of Garapan Elementary School. The book's author, Dennis Chan (not in photo), also visited Marianas High School to talk about his book and meet students. *Our Northern Islands* is available on Amazon.com for \$21.95.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO





## Life & Style

# Football star Hines Ward is new 'Dancing' champ

By **SANDY COHEN**  
AP ENTERTAINMENT WRITER

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Hines Ward added a disco-ball trophy to his Super Bowl shelf Tuesday night after he samba-ed his way to the "Dancing With the Stars" championship.

The Pittsburgh Steelers wide receiver and former Super Bowl MVP won the title, besting actresses Kirstie Alley and Chelsea Kane to become the season 12 champion of the TV celebrity dance competition.

"You are the MVP of 'Dancing With the Stars' season 12," judge Carrie Ann Inaba said after Ward and professional partner Kym Johnson finished their last dance. "You learned how to lead the dancing, not only in the dance, but you led your partner out of injury. You dance with heart and it shows."

Ward said after the show that he owes the victory to his partner, hard work and the fans.

"The competition has been so close all year, we knew it was going to come down to voting," he said, "so we want to thank our fans."

Judge Bruno Tonioli said Ward "really is like a ray of sun-

shine when he enters the arena."

Ward was chosen by viewer votes combined with judges' scores. All three couples emerged with perfect scores after dancing Tuesday night, which kept the competition tight. Ward came into the season finale tied for first place with Kane, who finished in last place when the votes were tallied. Alley finished second.

Alley was a fan favorite all season and was also one of the most amusing contestants on the ballroom floor, losing her shoes during one performance and always getting through her challenges with a smile and a quip.

"I know I'm not alone when I say I love you for being you," Inaba said Tuesday after Alley and partner Maksim Chmerkovskiy finished performing a cha cha.

"I'm just going to miss dancing with Maks," Alley said of her partner.

Kane, who waltzed to the theme from "Harry Potter" with professional partner Mark Ballas, was the first to be eliminated Tuesday. But she wasn't too upset.

"The fact that I'm here (in the finals) is super flattering," the

22-year-old actress said after the season finale. "For me, I'll never experience anything like this ever again."

Wendy Williams, Kendra Wilkinson, Sugar Ray Leonard and other celebrity contestants cast off the hit ABC show earlier in the season brought their sometimes stunning, sometimes wacky moves back to the ballroom for the finale.

The show opened with an all-cast routine and the Black Eyed Peas singing their new single, "Don't Stop the Party," to an energized audience.

Besides the Peas, the Go-Go's played their classic "We Got the Beat" for a frenzied dance routine, and Josh Groban sang "You Raise Me Up" while Petra Nemcova danced. Sara Evans performed "A Little Bit Stronger" at the end of the show, before Ward won the mirrorball trophy.

Famed sports announcer Michael Buffer called Leonard and pro wrestler Chris Jericho to the dance floor for a tough-guy dance-off. Wilkinson reprised her sexy, booty-and-bosom-shaking cha cha, then nearly fell off the judges' table when she finished.

## Alley has lost 38 inches since 'Dancing' debut

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—When Kirstie Alley performed on the "Dancing With the Stars" season finale, she did it in a much smaller dress than the one she wore on the season premiere.

The costume Alley wore for her "Dancing" debut had to be taken in 38 inches for her to wear again for the show's closing episode Tuesday. She reprised her opening-night dance, the cha-cha, in her original costume—minus about 38 inches in alterations from throughout the outfit.

The 60-year-old actress has been noticeably shrinking week after week, but she was coy when asked Monday how much weight she has lost during her two and a half months on the show.

"There will be some reveal of that at some point, but I really didn't care," she said. "As long as I kept changing and changing and changing, I really didn't care. It was like, keep whittling, whittling, whittling. And the other thing that's really more significant to me—I



In this photo combination of file images released by ABC, actress Kirstie Alley and her partner Maksim Chmerkovskiy perform on the celebrity dance competition series, "Dancing with the Stars," in Los Angeles, on March 28, 2011, at left, and May 16, 2011, at right.

mean, I love the whittling. I like being skinny—I'm really strong and really agile, and it gave me a new life."

Alley's costumes have gotten progressively smaller and skimpier as she has continued on the show.

"We are constantly taking in and altering Kirstie's costumes," said designer Randall

Christensen. "Isn't she looking incredible?"

The one-time "Fat Actress" wowed in a body-hugging catsuit during her freestyle dance Monday. After the performance, Judge Carrie Ann Inaba told Alley that she has become "the new poster child for life as it should be lived at 60 years old."

### MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION



*We, the family of the late*

**†Jesus Fujihira Santos**

*Wish to express our heartfelt appreciation to all our relatives, friends and neighbors for their kind expression of love, sympathy, personal assistance and support during this difficult time of sorrow in the passing of our beloved in the caring hands of our Creator.*

*Our special thanks to Fr. Eugene Espeleta, Dr. Daniel Lamar, Dr. Nathan Tan, Staff of CHC and Dept. of Public Safety, our Techa – Annette F. Duenas, Marcy Hockett of Natibu's Kitchen, Marcy Cepeda, Kantaye Kristo Rai Choir.*

*Also, our sincere appreciation to the staff and management of Cabrera's Funeral Home and Our Lady of Peace Crematorium and to all our dear friends and family, near and afar, we thank you very much.*

*To all who have helped us in one way or another, your presence, compassion and generosity will always be remembered.*

*May God bless us all.  
Thank You – Si Yu'us Ma'se*

**Eulalia "Lily" Carreon Santos, Children and Family**

## In Humble Gratitude

We the family of the late

**†Bernadita Sablan  
Naputi Dela Cruz**

*April 16, 1963 - May 09, 2011*

Wish to extend our deepest and warmest appreciation to all our relatives and friends for the genuine compassion you showed us during our greatest and most painful time of sorrow. Your thoughtful prayers, comfort, and unending support and other considerate acts of grace did much to calm the ache in our hearts and may time lessen our pain as memories gently turn tears to smiles. We acknowledge and cherish the time you devoted us, your kindness that has touched us all and we will forever remember you. May God bless us all.

Our sincerest appreciation to Fr. Eugene Espeleta for the touching homily and celebrating the Mass of Christian Burial. Thank you to Fr. Raul Salgado for assisting in the celebration. Your humble presence has touched our hearts. Our gratitude to Ms. Marcy P. Cepeda for her tireless efforts and the Kantaye Kristo Rai Choir. To Margaret C. Dela Cruz and Frank Cabrera for the music provided to our beloved on her funeral day and this morning at our Eucharistic Celebration. To the Doctors, Nurses and staff of CHC for the care and compassion extended to our beloved.

*Masen magof ham in ekstende un sinseru yan Dangkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase para I familia yan manatungo siha pot i tinayuyot yan finatton-miyu diurante i pinitenmami. Todu i tiempo bai hahasso hamyo gi tinayuyot-mami ni familia.*

Thank You – Si Yu'us Ma'se

**Steven S. Dela Cruz, Children and Family  
Jose H. and Hinara A. Naputi, Children and Family  
Gregorio C. and Bernadita S. Dela Cruz, Children and Family  
Family of the late †Francisco (Fal) Arriola**





# Oprah Winfrey focuses on fans during finale

CHICAGO (AP)—In the end, it was just Oprah.

For the final episode of "The Oprah Winfrey Show" taped Tuesday, the talk show queen appeared alone on her Chicago stage, talking to viewers about what they've meant to her during the show's 25-year run. The finale will air on Wednesday.

Fans leaving Tuesday's taping said Winfrey had tears in her eyes as the television icon said a final thank you.

"She said, 'This isn't goodbye. This is until we meet again,'" said Amy Korin, 32, of Chicago, who was in the audience.

Winfrey then kissed and hugged her longtime partner, Stedman Graham, and made her way through the halls of Harpo Studios, saying goodbye to her staff, audience members said.

She kept saying, "We did it! We did it!" Korin said, and giving employees high-fives.

There was a single chair on the stage, but Winfrey stood most of the time, audience members said.

"A lot of crying and hugs, crying and hugs," Korin said.

Audience members described a simply produced series finale filled with a sense of gratitude.

"It was just her the whole time, a recap of what she believed in, what we've given her as viewers and what she hopes she has given us," said Nancy Evankoe, 60, Hoffman Estates, who went to the taping with her daughter.

Winfrey announced in November 2009 that she would end her popular talk show after 25 years. Tuesday's taping comes a week after Holly-

wood's A-list and 13,000 fans bid Winfrey farewell during a double-episode extravaganza at Chicago's United Center. The shows that aired Monday and Tuesday included Aretha Franklin, Tom Cruise, Stevie Wonder, Michael Jordan and Madonna, among other stars of television, music and movies.

The bare-bones final taping had its share of celebrities in the audience including Tyler Perry, Maria Shriver, Suze Orman and Cicely Tyson, but none of them joined Winfrey on stage. There were 404 audience members, according to Harpo Productions.

Hundreds of giddy fans struck by their luck at getting tickets for the final show had gathered outside Winfrey's television studio in Chicago Tuesday morning.



AP

In this May 17, 2011 file photo, Oprah Winfrey acknowledges fans during a star-studded double-taping of "Surprise Oprah! A Farewell Spectacular," in Chicago.

Sarah Cranley, 32, of Chicago waited in line with her mother, who traveled in from Pittsburgh for the taping. Cranley said she felt very lucky to snag tickets to the last show and the prospect of seeing Winfrey live didn't yet feel real.

"You think about how many

billions of people around the world watch her and want to be here," Cranley said. "What are the odds?"

Cranley's mother, Sally Mowrey, 59, said Winfrey was a constant in her life when her husband's job transfers had her family move 17 times.

"That was something I could count on, watching Oprah," Mowrey said. "That was one thing that didn't change."

Fans said they went through the normal ticketing process for the final taping by submitting their names online. Some said they wrote letters explaining why they were Winfrey fans.

Winfrey's best friend Gayle King mixed with the waiting fans and interviewed several with a camera phone. For her, the show's end is bittersweet.

"I have such mixed feelings about it," King told fans. The finale of "The Oprah Winfrey Show" has remained a secret, even as Harpo Studios hyped it as a television event.

In a promotional video posted online May 16, clips of famous television finales plays over a sad song with the lyrics "It's hard to say goodbye." It includes Mary Tyler Moore, Walter Cronkite, Johnny Carson, "M.A.S.H.," "The Cosby Show," and "Cheers."

The video asks viewers "Where were you?" and "Where will you be?" Another promotional video for the final three episodes prompts viewers to "Say farewell."

When Winfrey announced her show would end she promised her viewers she would use the final season to "knock your socks off." On her 25th and final season premiere she danced onstage with John Travolta and told everyone in the audience they were going to Australia.

## 'Idol' judges back Lauren Alaina to win finale

LOS ANGELES (AP)—If it was up to the judges, Lauren Alaina would be crowned the next "American Idol."

The show's panel backed the chipper, 16-year-old songbird of Rossville, Ga., to win the grand prize after she faced off against Scotty McCreery in three performances on the Fox talent competition's finale Tuesday.

Jennifer Lopez said Alaina's soaring rendition of the ballad, "Like My Mother Does," may have secured her the title.

"This is a very tight race tonight, but Lauren, with that song, you may have just won," said Lopez.

McCreery, the deep-voiced 17-year-old country crooner from Garner, N.C., was also in it to win it on the Nokia Theatre stage with his own possible future single, "I Love You This Big."

Randy Jackson said his range on the ballad was great because he "sung really low and really high." Both tunes were selected by "Idol" mentor Jimmy Iovine.

"If he brings that Scotty cool tonight, there's no reason that confetti doesn't fall on him," said Iovine, the Interscope Records chairman who will sign the winner to his label.

McCreery, who has solidly maintained his old-school country vibe throughout the compe-



AP

In this May 18, 2011 file photo released by Fox, Lauren Alaina performs on the singing competition series "American Idol," in Los Angeles.

tion, has never been among the show's low vote-getters and has long been considered to be one of the 10th season's front-runners. Alaina has also consistently delivered smooth performances this season, but she once found herself at the bottom three weeks ago.

Tuesday's finale began dramatically when host Ryan Seacrest announced that Alaina lost her voice during rehearsals. He brought Dr. Shawn Nasser on stage to explain that Alaina blew out one of her vocal cords

but had been given "a lot of medicine" to be able to sing during the finale.

Alaina insisted at the beginning of the show that she would perform.

"I'm here," she said. "I'm ready to sing, and I'm fine. Don't worry about it."

The ailment didn't seem to deter the vocalist during the first two rounds of the finale, when she performed a rollicking rendition of Carrie Underwood's "Flat on the Floor," which she previously took on during the ninth week of the finals. She later belted out Pam Tillis' "Maybe It Was Memphis," which was selected by former "Idol" winner Underwood.

McCreery rigorously reprised his version of Montgomery Gentry's "Gone," which he also performed during the finals' ninth week, before breaking out his acoustic guitar for George Strait's "Check Yes or No," which was picked by Strait.

Lopez and Jackson split those rounds between the pair, but Steven Tyler told McCreery that Alaina edged him out because "she's prettier than you are."

Backstage after the finale, Alaina remained silent and scrawled responses to reporters on a notepad with a black marker. ("This is weird!!" read one note.)

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**Kung Fu Panda 2**  
 Thursday 4:00 7:00  
**Jack Black, Angelina Jolie**  
 Children's Family • Rated PG

### Synopsis

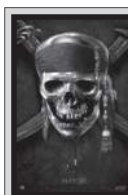
Jack Black and Angelina Jolie return to lend their voice talents to the Kung Fu Panda franchise with this second entry from DreamWorks Animation and Paramount Pictures. Jennifer Yuh Nelson directs from a script by Jonathan Aibel and Glenn Berger.



**The Hangover Part 2**  
 Thursday 4:25 7:25  
**Bradley Cooper, Zack Galifianakis**  
 Comedy • Rated R

### Synopsis

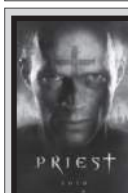
In the follow-up to the record-breaking hit comedy "The Hangover," Phil (Bradley Cooper), Stu (Ed Helms), Alan (Zach Galifianakis) and Doug (Justin Bartha) travel to exotic Thailand for Stu's wedding. After the unforgettable bachelor party in Las Vegas, Stu is taking no chances and has opted for a safe, subdued pre-wedding brunch. However, things don't always go as planned. What happens in Vegas may stay in Vegas, but what happens in Bangkok can't even be imagined.



**Pirates of the Caribbean: On Strange Tides**  
 Thursday 4:15 7:15  
**Johnny Depp, Penélope Cruz**  
 Adventure • Rated PG 13



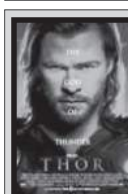
**Hoodwinked Too!**  
 Thursday 4:10  
**Heidi Klum, Wayne Newton**  
 Comedy • Rated PG



**Priest**  
 Thursday 7:10  
**Paul Bettany, Cam Gigandet**  
 Horror, Western • Rated PG 13



**Bridesmaids**  
 Thursday 4:20 7:20  
**Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph**  
 Comedy drama • Rated R



**Thor**  
 Thursday 4:05 7:05  
**Chris Hemsworth, Natalie Portman**  
 Action • Rated PG 13



**Fast Five**  
 Thursday 4:30 7:30  
**Vin Diesel, Paul Walker**  
 Action • Rated PG 13

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# Michelle Obama wows Britain with her style

**LONDON** (AP)—There weren't any hugs, like last time, but U.S. First Lady Michelle Obama shared a warm handshake with the British queen and gained more fans during her state visit to the U.K.

Mrs. Obama captured the nation's attention in 2009 when she affectionately put her arm on Queen Elizabeth II's back in a minor breach of protocol.

On Tuesday, Mrs. Obama started the day off when she briefly shook the queen's hand at a Buckingham Palace ceremony. Her three dress changes throughout the day were closely watched by the British media—the BBC, among others, spent much of its air time before the evening's white-tie state dinner excitedly speculating on what she might wear for the occasion.

Her choices—including her white Tom Ford evening gown—wowed fashion critics. The Guardian noted the tone of “cheerful informality” her day outfits imparted, and praised her for bringing “style and substance to the palace.”

The first lady is expected to travel to Oxford on Wednesday



Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, U.S. President Barack Obama, first lady Michelle Obama and Prince Philip in Buckingham Palace, London, ahead of a state banquet on Tuesday May 24, 2011.

to speak to London schoolgirls spending a day at the college town as part of a program she has supported since her last

visit to England. The students are from the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Language College, which Mrs. Obama visited in

April 2009.

The Obamas are staying at Buckingham Palace during their brief visit.

# Lil Jon receives honor for “Apprentice” earnings

**DECATUR, Ga.** (AP)—When Lil Jon was fired from Donald Trump's “Celebrity Apprentice,” the rapper-producer fell short of the amount of money he wanted to raise for his charity. That charity thought his efforts were just enough, though. On Tuesday, he was honored by the United Methodist Children's Home for raising \$80,000.

The proceeds will be placed in an endowment fund to help educational opportunities and refurbish buildings at the sprawling 99-acre campus in suburban Atlanta. There will also be multimedia studio named after Lil Jon to help launch a music and performing arts program.

Sporting a gray suit and a black bow tie, the normally energetic Lil Jon—who is known

as the “King of Crunk”—was at a loss for words. His voice trembled when the pointed out that today was the birthday of his father—who died several years ago.

“I'm rarely speechless, but I'm speechless today,” Lil Jon said. “The goal was to raise awareness to this children's home. Through the show, a lot of people got to learn about this home. Through the show, more people said they'll make more donations. I'm happy with that.”

The 40-year-old said his initial goal was to raise \$100,000. He was among the final four contestants along with John Rich, Meat Loaf and Marlee Matlin.

Rich won the competition on Sunday, taking home \$250,000 for his charity.

Lil Jon's tenure ended more than a week ago after he told a panel of past “Apprentice” winners that Rich and Matlin should face off against each other rather than himself.

Terence Johnson, director of programs at the United Methodist Children's Home, said he wouldn't have traded in Lil Jon for any of the other show's contestants. He said the rapper brought national awareness to the UMCH, which opened in 1871 and was originally founded as an orphanage for children who lost parents during the Civil War.

“It translates into hope,” Johnson said. “You can't put a price tag on it. This is the spark that some of these kids need.”

Johnson said Lil Jon's ability to help others on the show look

past the negative stereotype associated with rappers, who are known for their harsh and obscene lyrics.

Lil Jon's mother, who was in attendance, said she was proud of her son's positive effect through his charity.

“It brought back sadness,” said Lil Jon's mother Carrie Smith-Williams, who was a foster parent. “I was so happy to see him express that without even crying. They were so close. I was proud of him.”

The charity efforts won't stop there with Jon and his “Celebrity Apprentice” counterparts. He, Meat Loaf, Rich and Mark McGrath recently released the “Stand In The Storm,” a song that will benefit each of their charities.

# Barnes & Noble launches touch-screen Nook for \$139

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The lighter, slimmer, cheaper new version of Barnes & Noble's e-reader has a black-and-white touch screen and aims squarely at the “grandma” demographic—or at least those craving a simpler e-book reader.

The latest Nook's price tag—\$139—is a sign that the book seller also is aiming to compete with Amazon and Borders Group Inc. on e-reader prices.

The focus on simplicity means the new Nook's battery can last 2 months, CEO William Lynch said at an event in New York to announce the device. Lynch told the crowd of bloggers, news media and analysts the latest Nook was inspired by feedback from customers—specifically a letter asking why no e-readers were suitable for a



Barnes and Noble Chief Executive Officer William Lynch gestures during a news conference to introduce the new nook, Tuesday, May 24, 2011, in New York.

grandma.

“The Kindle 3 has 38 buttons. That's 37 more than the all-new Nook,” said Lynch, taking a jab at Amazon.com's e-reader, the market's top seller.

The new Nook, to be avail-

able June 10, is Wi-Fi only, has a 6-inch touch screen and can hold up to 1,000 digital books. It features the latest E Ink technology, which significantly minimizes flashing that can occur as a user pages through an e-book.

Pages seem to melt into each other on the new Nook.

The newest device replaces versions that came before the Nook Color, which still sells for \$249. After the all-new Nook's release, the first-generation Nook will sell for \$119, and the Nook 3G will sell for \$169—until supplies run out.

Barnes & Noble Inc. executives said the new device lets readers look up words, highlight passages, search and adjust font size. It weighs 7.5 ounces, 35 percent less than the first Nook, which launched a year and a half ago. The iPad 2 weighs more than 1.3 pounds, roughly three times as much as the newest Nook.

The newest Kindle is almost as light, at 8.5 ounces, but holds more than three times as many books as the new Nook.

# Mother's outbursts suggest something's seriously wrong

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



*Dear Abby*

**DEAR ABBY:** My dad died four years ago. He and Mom had many friends and did everything together, including raising nine children.

Mom was always in charge of things. Dad reinforced any decisions she made and vice versa. Since his death, Mom has become progressively more bitter. Eight children are alive today, and we all avoid her if we can. She cries because no one stops by to see her, but if we do, she has a long chore list waiting. I have my own home, work two jobs and don't want what little time I have with her spent working as her slave.

If by chance I feel brave enough to take her out in public, she embarrasses me with her verbal outbursts. She waits until I start to pay, then asks loudly, “Are you sure you have enough money in the bank to pay for that?” Another time, she stopped a complete stranger, told him I was single and asked if he wanted to know my bra size!

I have tried talking to her. She just gets mad and makes my life even more miserable. Mom will be 70 in a few months. I want to enjoy her and what time we have left together, but I find myself running away from her wrath! I don't want to live without her, but I don't want to live with her, either. Please tell me what to do.

DRIVEN AWAY IN GEORGIA

**DEAR DRIVEN AWAY:** Was your mother always this way? If not, please understand that she may be seriously ill. You have described some symptoms of the onset of dementia. Instead of shunning her, you and your siblings need to encourage her to see her doctor because she needs a thorough physical and neurological examination. Offering you to a strange man was extremely inappropriate, and her chore list may indicate that she's no longer able to do what's on it for herself.

Your mother NEEDS all of you right now. Go with her to the doctor, and be sure her physician knows what's been going on. It may take insistence from all of you to get her there. Please don't let her down. You have my sympathy and so does she.

■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** I am a single dad of three kids. For the past three years I have promised to take them to Disney World. The first year, my youngest got sick and had to have surgery. The following year, I had a stroke and was laid up for a while. This year, as I was on my way to get the tickets, my car broke down.

I work so hard to give my kids what they need, but I can't give them a vacation they can remember for the rest of their lives. I feel like I have let them down. How can I make this feeling go away?

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**DEAR NO MAGIC:** For one thing, stop beating yourself up over circumstances that are beyond your control. As a single parent, you are giving your children love, support and memories of a caring father that WILL last a lifetime. You'll take them to Disney World at a time when it is feasible. Until then, forgive yourself for not having been able to deliver on your promise immediately.

■■■

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

■■■

*What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in “What Every Teen Should Know.” To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*







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**Saipan Tribune**

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**REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK**

By JAYVEE VALLEJERA

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Weather Channel predicted near-freezing weather for Jan. 5, the day the 112th Congress was to be sworn in. What D.C. got was a blindingly sunny day, with hardly a cloud to mar the cobalt blue sky.

In fact, it was chillier inside the Capitol, when outgoing House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) was handed over the gavel to Speaker (R-Ohio) Boehner.

**OPINION METER**

This week's poll: Are you in favor of Gov. Benigno R. Fitial's plan to redefine public service and "reduce" government?

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# James, Bosh, Wade carry Heat over Bulls



MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade missed a dunk in the first quarter. He didn't score in the second half. He was slow at times, sluggish at others, barely a factor for long stretches of the game.

That is, until it mattered most.

The Big Three is one win away from playing for the NBA's biggest prize, and all three had a huge hand in putting the Miami Heat on that doorstep.

LeBron James scored 35 points, Chris Bosh added 22 and Wade perked up to block as many shots—two—as Chicago made in overtime, as the Heat topped the Bulls 101-93 in a scintillating Game 4 of the Eastern Conference finals on Tuesday night to take a 3-1 lead in the series.

"You could tell that neither team wanted to lose," Wade said. "Both teams were clawing. If you're a fan of the game, this was a great basketball game. ... This was will."

Miami will go for the clincher Thursday in Chicago, where the Heat can wrap up their first finals trip since 2006.

"It's one game away," James said. "We're not taking anything for granted."

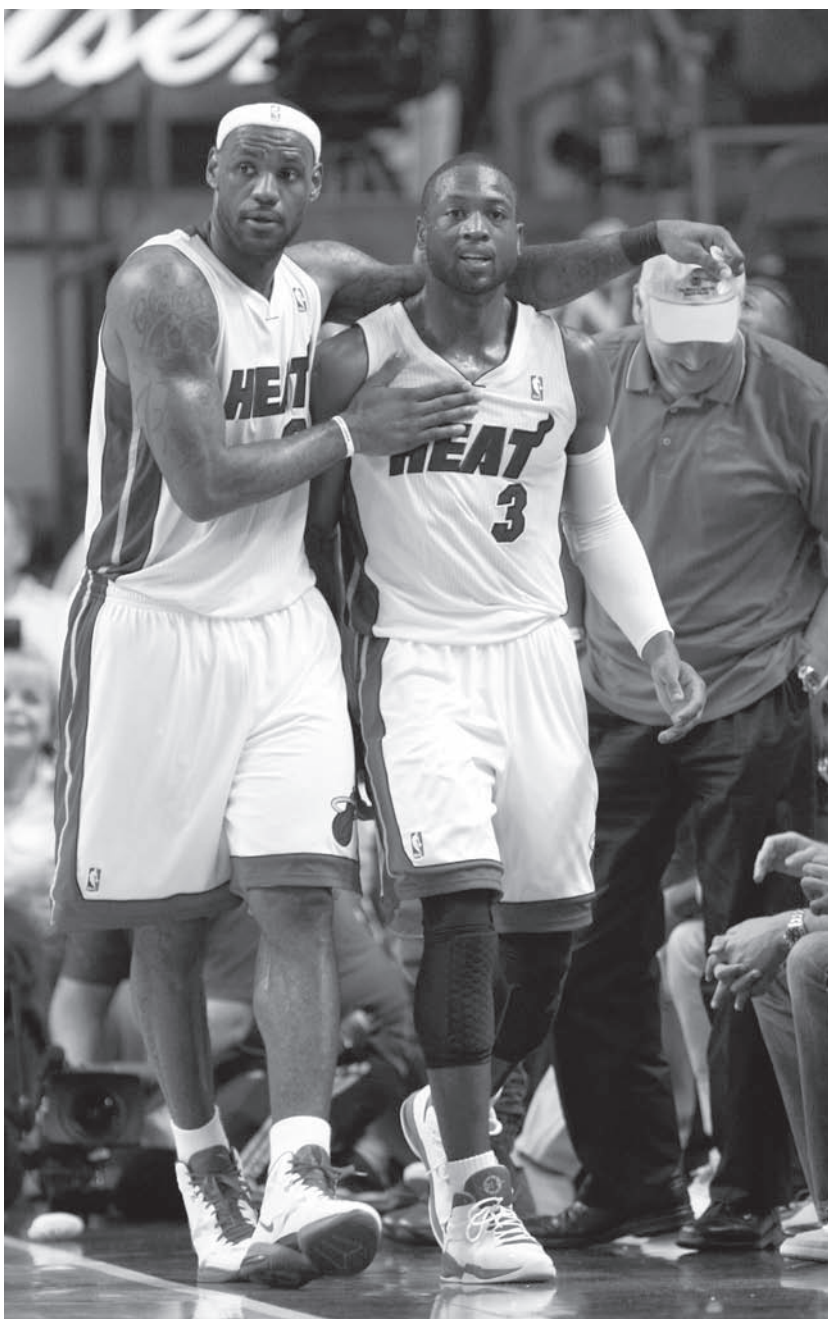
Derrick Rose scored 23 points for the Bulls, who got 20 apiece from Luol Deng and Carlos Boozer. Chicago has lost three straight games for the first time this season, and afterward, the league's reigning MVP pointed the finger of blame at himself.

"It's not over," said Rose, who shot 8 of 27 and turned the ball over seven times.

Still, some doubt may be creeping in. Chicago had its chances, and knew it, but was unable to take advantage of a largely off night by Wade. Rose was guarded in the game's biggest minutes by James, and the MVP past had the upper hand against the MVP present.

"It's extremely hard," Rose acknowledged, "when a 6-8 guy can easily defend you."

The Heat were down by 11 early, led for only 4 1/2 minutes in the third and fourth quarters, and had Wade stuck on eight points from late in the second quarter until past the midpoint of overtime.



AP  
Miami Heat's LeBron James, left, and Dwyane Wade walk together during overtime of Game 4 of the NBA basketball playoffs Eastern Conference finals against the Chicago Bulls in Miami, Tuesday, May 24, 2011.

Somehow, it wasn't a problem. A sleep-deprived Mike Miller—whose wife delivered a baby last week—scored 12 points and made plenty of key defensive plays to help Miami outscore Chicago by a whopping 36 points with him on the floor. Udonis Haslem missed all five of his shots, and he was still a plus-25 in his 33 minutes off the bench.

And the stars, well, were stars. "We know offensively, at times, we have rough stretches," James said. "But we give ourselves chances to win every game because we defend."

James was 11 for 26 from the field and 13 for 13 - his best playoff showing ever - from the foul line. Bosh was aggressive again, making 10 of his 11 free throws. Miami made its last 24 straight

from the stripe, and the defense was again the biggest key of all.

"Defense is the reason that we're here," Bosh said. "Defense is the reason that we win every game. And defense is the reason why we have a chance of winning Game 5."

From the Miami perspective, this game will be remembered for how the Heat rallied around Wade—then watched him save his best for last.

"We reminded him in one of the final huddles, this is his time," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said.

The 2006 NBA finals MVP was in the arena late Monday night, trying to work on some things in one of his customary playoff after-dark sessions.

Sometimes it works. Sometimes it doesn't. This seemed like it would be the latter.

Whatever answer he sought, he didn't find for much of Game 4. Wade made just 5 of 16 shots from the field, lacking his usual lift at the rim. He made a pair of free throws with 1:50 left in the first half for his seventh and eighth points, and didn't score again until overtime.

Better late than never.

"Hey, they're a great team," Bulls coach Tom Thibodeau said. "They compete. They play hard. They play great defense ... and they made plays at the end."

Chicago turned the ball over on consecutive possessions late in overtime, Wade turned the second of those into a layup with 1:01 left for a 95-89 lead, and the Heat soon knew they were one win away from the title round.

The fourth quarter was pure theater, both teams clearly knowing—clearly relishing—the stakes.

Miami scored the first seven points for a 70-69 lead. Chicago took the lead back on a pair of free throws by Rose with 6:34 left, and Miami answered with a four-point possession—two free throws by Bosh after a flagrant foul against Boozer, followed by Miller making a jumper over Rose for a 78-77 edge.

Back and forth from there, with the lead, the momentum, control of the series, all seeming to turn every time the ball crossed midcourt.

"We thought we had chances to win

and unfortunately we came up short," Boozer said. "All we can do now is focus on the next one at home and do what we can to win that game and then move forward from there."

Rose had a chance with 28 seconds left in regulation, his jumper from the left side hitting the rim and eventually being corralled by Miller. The Heat called time with 23 seconds left, 18 seconds on the shot clock, everyone in the building probably thinking the play would be set up for James.

It was. And it never got a chance for liftoff.

Referee Bennett Salvatore called James for an offensive foul with 8 seconds left, saying Ronnie Brewer beat him to the spot as the two-time MVP tried to back down the right side of the lane. So instead of winning the game late in regulation, James had to send it to overtime with defense. He guarded Rose on the final possession, forcing the Chicago guard into a taking a jumper that fell way short, and off to an extra 5 minutes they went.

"All I can do now is put it behind me and go forward," Rose said.

A day after being fined \$50,000 for directing an anti-gay slur at a fan in Game 3, Bulls center Joakim Noah had six points and 14 rebounds in 45 minutes. And there seemed to be very little, if any, unusual rancor from Miami fans toward Noah.

Chicago's lead was 46-44 at halftime, after some wild emotional swings—a 19-4 run by the Bulls, followed by a 29-9 spurt for the Heat, then capped by an 18-7 rebuttal by the Bulls to close the second quarter.

The Heat never led in the third quarter, but Chicago never pulled away.

The Bulls were up by eight and had possession with 3 minutes left, before Miami scored eight of the game's next 10 points to make a precarious deficit a bit more manageable and set up the unbelievable final quarter.

"Look, this series is an absolute bloodbath," Spoelstra said. "It's about as competitive and physical as it can be."

And down 3-1, Rose conceded nothing.

"They are beatable," Rose said.

## Nadal comes back to beat Isner at French Open



PARIS (AP)—It's newsworthy enough when anyone manages to win a set against Rafael Nadal at any stage

of the French Open—let alone two sets in the first round.

So a buzz built at Roland Garros on Tuesday when unseeded American John Isner pulled ahead of five-time champion Nadal by unfurling his 6-foot-9 frame to pound serves at upward of 140 mph, pushing up to the net time after time for volleys, and generally making the Spaniard uncomfortable for stretches.

"Quite clearly," Nadal acknowledged later, "this is a match that I could have lost."

In the end, he did not. Stretched to five sets for the first time in 40 career French Open matches, Nadal came back to emerge with a 6-4, 6-7 (2), 6-7 (2), 6-2, 6-4 victory over Isner and reach the second round.

"Really, what it came down to is the way he played in the fourth and fifth sets," Isner said. "I haven't seen tennis like that, ever."

It was the most riveting match of a day that featured reigning U.S. Open and Australian Open champion Kim Clijsters' first appearance at the French Open since 2006, a 6-2, 6-3 victory over Anastasiya Yakimova. Also advancing were Maria Sharapova, Li Na, Andy Murray, Robin Soderling and Sam Querrey.

Two seeded women lost: No. 20 Ana Ivanovic, the 2008 champion, was eliminated 7-6 (3), 0-6, 6-2 by Johanna Larsson of Sweden, while No. 22 Dominika Cibulkova of Slovakia was beaten 6-7 (10), 6-3, 6-2 by Vania King of the United States. No. 11 Nicolas Pietrangeli departed with a five-set loss to Lukasz Kubot of Poland.

Nadal's bid to tie Bjorn Borg's record of six championships at the clay-court

Grand Slam tournament nearly came to a too-abrupt-to-believe halt.

Consider:

■ Nadal entered the day 38-1 at the French Open, his only loss coming to two-time finalist Soderling in the fourth round in 2009.

■ Isner's career in Paris before Tuesday? One first-round exit and one trip to the third round, for a 2-2 record.

■ Nadal is ranked No. 1 and owns nine Grand Slam titles.

- Isner is ranked 39th and never has been past the fourth at a major tournament. He's best known to date for winning the longest match in tennis history, 70-68 in the fifth set at Wimbledon last year, and setting a record with 113 aces in that marathon.

■ Until the first of Tuesday's two tiebreakers, Nadal hadn't lost a single set at the French Open since 2009. And he hadn't lost a set in any of 12 previous first- or second-round matches in the tournament.

So all seemed rather ho-hum when Nadal was leading Isner by a set and a break at 4-2 in the second. But Isner broke back to 4-all when Nadal missed a forehand, and suddenly, a tight match ensued.

"That's when I started to sort of believe a little bit more," Isner said, "and started to play with more confidence and strut around more out there."

Even Nadal was a bit worried. So was Toni Nadal, Rafael's coach and uncle, who would later say that from his perch in the stands he felt "very, very nervous, because losing in the first round is not too good for us."

But his nephew steeled himself, and made zero—yes, that's right, zero—unforced errors in the fourth set, while Isner made 12. Nadal broke Isner for a 2-1 edge in the fourth set, and called that "the turning point."

Isner's coach, Craig Boynton, agreed.

"Rafa getting up an early break in

the fourth really helped his psyche," Boynton said.

Nadal broke for a 2-1 lead in the fifth set, too, thanks in part to a cross-court backhand return winner, a forehand return winner, and a backhand return at the feet of the net-charging Isner. Uncle Toni greeted each with a yell of "Vamos!"

"Fantastic game for me," Nadal said. "I played my best game of the match."

There was still work to be done, and to Isner's credit, he made Nadal earn it right to the end.

Isner saved one match point while down 5-3. In the next game, four hours into the match, and with Nadal serving at 5-4, they played a 25-stroke point at 30-all. It was a classic clay-court point, carried out from the baseline, and Isner hung right in there until Nadal whipped a forehand winner.

Isner paused beside the green courtside advertising signs, leaned over and put his hands on his knees.

"That's one of the reasons why he does what he does," Isner said. "I mean, he just outlasted me there."



# Quentin hits 3 HRs, White Sox outlast Rangers



**ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)**—Carlos Quentin hit three home

runs as the Chicago White Sox beat the Texas Rangers 8-6 on Tuesday in a game delayed nearly 3 hours by heavy rain and hail that sent fans scurrying for cover throughout the ballpark.

Fans were moved from the upper deck to the lower seating bowl and then told to take cover in tunnels beneath the ballpark as a storm approached that halted play in the fourth inning.

The game resumed after a delay of 2 hours, 58 minutes. The final out was recorded at 1:27 a.m.

## Orioles 5, Royals 3

At Baltimore Adam Jones capped a ninth-inning rally with a two-run walkoff homer against Joakim Soria to give Baltimore a victory over Kansas City.

Jones hit a pitch over the center-field wall to cap a three-run rally that gave Baltimore its third straight victory.

## Red Sox 4, Indians 2

At Cleveland, Josh Beckett picked up his first regular-season win in Cleveland as Boston dealt the Indians their fifth loss at home.

Beckett (4-1) allowed one run and five hits in 6 2-3 innings for his only non-postseason win at Progressive Field. He won here in the 2007 American League championship series, pitching eight dominant innings in Game 5 as the Red Sox kept their season alive and eventually won the series.

## Yankees 5, Blue Jays 4

At New York, Curtis Granderson had a

tying RBI single in the ninth inning then stole second base before Mark Teixeira singled him home to give CC Sabathia and New York the win over Toronto.

The Yankees rallied for two runs in the eighth against relievers Casey Jansen and Marc Rzepczynski, and two in the ninth off Frank Francisco (1-2) for their sixth win in eight games.

## Tigers 7, Rays 6

At Detroit, Alex Avila's second homer of the game in the eighth inning gave Detroit the lead over Tampa Bay.

Miguel Cabrera hit a three-run homer in the fifth, giving him 34 RBIs this season, to help Detroit win its third straight.

Avila hit a solo drive in the sixth off starter Wade Davis and a go-ahead, two-run shot off Cesar Ramos in the eighth.

## Twins 4, Mariners 2

At Minneapolis, Nick Blackburn came through with a desperately needed complete game and Denard Span had three hits and an RBI to lift Minnesota over Seattle.

Blackburn (4-4) allowed seven hits and struck out six, throwing a career-high 127 pitches for his fifth career complete game and the Twins snapped a nine-game home losing streak.

Doug Fister (2-5) gave up four runs and nine hits with six strikeouts in 6 2-3 innings. He balked home the go-ahead run in the seventh inning and the Mariners saw their season-high six-game winning streak end.

## Athletics 6, Angels 1

At Anaheim, California, David DeJesus hit two homers and drove in four runs, and Guillermo Moscoso pitched six scoreless innings to win his first major

league start, as Oakland snapped a six-game losing streak.

DeJesus doubled his season homer total with a second-inning solo shot and a two-run homer in the fourth off Dan Haren (4-3), whose winless streak reached seven starts since he began the season 4-0.

## Reds 6, Phillies 3

At Philadelphia, Jay Bruce hit a tie-breaking, three-run double in the ninth inning as the Cincinnati Reds beat the Philadelphia Phillies to end a six-game losing streak.

The Reds had lost eight straight against National League East-leading Philadelphia, including a three-game sweep in last year's division playoff series.

Bruce came in swinging a hot bat. He had four homers in the last five games and was tied for the NL lead with 12. But he struck out three times and popped out in his first four at-bats before clearing the bases against Ryan Madson (2-1).

## Braves 2, Pirates 0

At Pittsburgh, Jair Jurrjens pitched six-hit ball into the eighth inning to lead Atlanta over Pittsburgh.

Alex Gonzalez had three hits and scored a run for the Braves, who scratched out just enough offense to end Pittsburgh starter Charlie Morton's three-game winning streak. Martin Prado had an RBI double.

## Rockies 12, Diamondbacks 4, 1st game Diamondbacks 5, Rockies 2, 2nd game

At Denver, Carlos Gonzalez homered twice as Colorado became the first

team to decipher Josh Collmenter's tomahawk-pitching style, rallying past Arizona despite losing pitcher Jorge De La Rosa to a torn elbow ligament in the opener of a day-night doubleheader.

Then the Rockies lost the nightcap when Joe Saunders (1-5) snapped his six-game losing streak and Kelly Johnson hit a solo homer and had one of three RBI doubles off Jhoulys Chacin (5-3) in the sixth inning.

Colorado manager Jim Tracy was ejected in the third inning of Game 2 after arguing a call at home plate.

## Dodgers 5, Astros 4

At Houston, Jerry Sands hit a grand slam and Jay Gibbons also homered as Los Angeles snapped a three-game losing streak with a win over Houston.

Astros starter J.A. Happ (3-6) walked Jamey Carroll with two outs in the third inning before a single by James Loney. Matt Kemp reached on an error by second baseman Bill Hall to set up the slam by Sands.

## Cubs 11, Mets 1

At Chicago, Ryan Dempster pitched seven effective innings and Starlin Castro had three hits and two RBIs as Chicago pounded the stumbling New York Mets.

The Cubs kicked off a nine-game homestand with their 11th victory in their past 12 games against NL East teams, hours after putting right-hander Matt Garza on the 15-day disabled list with elbow stiffness.

The Mets dropped their first game since a pair of magazine articles about Fred Wilpon. The embattled owner first made a couple of chilly comments about three of the team's biggest stars

in an interview with The New Yorker, then told Sports Illustrated the club is "bleeding cash" and could lose up to \$70 million this year.

## Brewers 7, Nationals 6

At Milwaukee, Jonathan Lucroy hit a two-out, two-run single in the eighth inning and Brandon Boggs collided into catcher Wilson Ramos to score the go-ahead run, rallying Milwaukee past Washington.

The Brewers have won 12 of 15 overall and have their longest winning streak in the 11-year history of Miller Park at eight games, though this one certainly didn't come easily.

## Cardinals 3, Padres 2, 11 innings

At San Diego, Daniel Descalso singled in the go-ahead run with two outs in the 11th inning as St. Louis held slumping San Diego to two hits.

Descalso's sharp one-hopper off the glove of diving second baseman Orlando Hudson—his third hit—scored Allen Craig, who drew a leadoff walk from Ernesto Frieri (1-2) and stole second. Frieri struck out Skip Schumaker and rookie Tony Cruz, who had three hits in his big league debut.

## Marlins 5, Giants 1

At San Francisco, Ricky Nolasco pitched scoreless ball into the ninth inning as Florida quieted San Francisco.

Gaby Sanchez had a three-run double and Mike Stanton hit his 11th home run to help the Marlins snap the defending World Series champions' nine-game home winning streak. San Francisco had won five straight overall to move into first place in the NL West.

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# 2011 DFS Junior Championships

PHOTOS BY  
ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Rafael Jones, right, and Thea Minor shake hands after their U18 singles semis match.

Catherine Atalig eyes the ball.



Jazmine Rayphand serves during her and Alina Ishikawa's U18 doubles match against Tammy Ackerman and Negahr Rastguiry in the 2011 DFS Junior Championships last weekend at the Pacific Islands Club hard courts.



Liza Atalig uses her two hands for a return.



Daniel Park returns to Christian Miller during their U18 singles semis game.



Alina Ishikawa goes for a baseline return.



Julia Ishikawa steps in for a return during her and Tania Tan's U12 doubles game against sisters Catherine and Liza Atalig.



Tania Tan goes for a backhand return.



Tammy Ackerman gets ready to serve.



Christian Miller goes for a forehand return against Daniel Park.



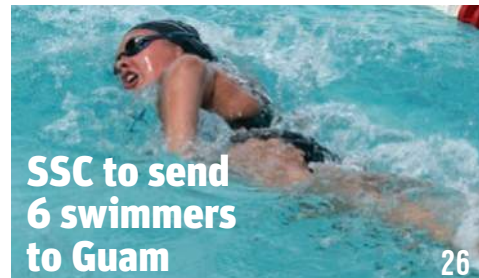




**James, Bosh,  
Wade carry  
Heat over Bulls**

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# Saipan Tribune Sports



**SSC to send  
6 swimmers  
to Guam**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Yvonne crushes CNMI record in 400m

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

**Y**vonne Bennett shattered the CNMI national record in the 400m run after competing for NCAA Division I's Boise State University during the 2011 Western Athletic Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships mid this month.

Bennett finished the 400m race at the Clarence T.C. Ching Track Complex in Honolulu, Hawaii on May 13 in 57.14 seconds, chopping off more than four seconds from the previous CNMI national mark of 61.30 seconds. Incidentally, it was also



Bennett who held the prior mark, setting the record run during the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau.

The new CNMI record, according to former Northern Marianas Athletics president Kurt Barnes, is also the

**See YVONNE on Page 26**



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Yvonne Bennett, seen here with a medal she won during an indoor tournament in February this year, shattered the CNMI record in the 400m run.

## Saipan all-stars gear up for district tourney

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND  
walter\_sutherland@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Saipan Little League's 2011 all-star teams have been practicing daily at both the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios and Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan ballfields in preparation of this weekend's district tournament on Rota.

All four divisions have been conducting infield and outfield defensive exercises, base running drills, and batting practice after school; pitching units

**See SAIPAN on Page 26**



WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND

Tan Siu Lin-Rep. Fred DLGuerrero-Rep. Ramon S. Basa Kagman Lions' head coach Lawrence Dikito conducts infield practice to some Junior League All-Stars during practice last Monday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

MP United's Enrico Del Rosario, right, eludes a Shirley's defender during the first half of their boys U15 game in the NMIFA league last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

## MP United sweeps boys U15 league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



MP United closed out its campaign in the 2011 NMIFA Youth Spring League in style, pounding Shirley's Football Club, 11-0, last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

MP United completed the two-round robin competition with an unbeaten 8-0 record. In its eight games, the Norman Del Rosario-

coached squad scored a league-best 47 goals and gave up only four, which was the lowest among the five-team field.

Jehn Joyner added three in MP United's last game, bringing his season's total to 16, the most so far in the league and three goals ahead of Matansa's Sean Perez. Perez has a chance to tie or surpass Joyner's goals, as Matansa has one more game left in the season and will play Tan Holdings this Saturday at 3pm at the Oleai pitch.

**See MP UNITED on Page 26**



# Thank You



**To the general public, all the bikers, the families, women, and children for making our annual firehouse openhouse a successful event.**

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